Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.

Psalms 100:4



# Pearl man on Iowa volleyball court wins victory for Christ

By Breena Kent Paine

NEW ORLEANS - Scott Crawford, of Pearl, Miss., and Wesley Paul, of Bangalore, India, took relational witnessing onto a volleyball court in Waterloo, Iowa, and won a victory for

Crawford and Paul were one of several Praxis teams from New Orleans Seminary sent on 10-week projects in communities throughout the country perceived as targets for planting churches. A cooperative ef-fort of the Home Mission Board, seminaries, state conventions, and local associations and churches, Praxis provides students an opportunity to put into practice what they

are learning in seminary.

Crawford's and Paul's objective in Waterloo, Iowa, was to rebuild a church that had dropped to five members, and to pull in unchurched

Paul, a graduate of Cumberland College, said he had chosen to go on Praxis "to see what goes on at the grass root level" in the United States.

"I also wanted to see how they (plant churches) in America because in America there are so many churches, and in India there are so few," he continued. "But to my surprise, growing a church in Iowa is like growing a church in India. Although the community is growing, they don't want anything to do with a commit-ment to God."

Some Christians "really push sharing (gospel) tracts in a first-time encounter," added Crawford, "but I (found) it so much more effective to

is lost, build their trust, and then share Jesus Christ with them.

"It was discouraging at times," he continued. "I realized first-hand the work up there is hard, but it put me in a position where I was trusting God more . . . . I would say my walk with the Lord got stronger."

Crawford said one man was sparked after meeting the Praxis team, and began to get involved in church again. He donated his material possessions, and opened his home for Bible study. His family became a nucleus family, drawing people to church.

"Seeing that one conversion made it all worth it."

"My classes in seminary stress being out there where the people are," Crawford said. "I guess part of that ties into preaching. If you don't know where the people are, you can't plug into them in your preaching. I found myself grateful for the evangelism emphasis I found at New Orleans

"The seminary is a rich wealth of experience and knowledge that becomes wisdom when you're out there on the field practicing it," Paul

build a friendship with someone who added. "These things become so much

a part of you."

They began playing volleyball each week with singles from the neighborhood. One evening, only five people showed up. Afterwards, one of the girls, Ann, asked Crawford and Paul over to cook hamburgers.

She told us she was kicked out of the church she was previously in because of her divorce," Crawford said. "So we invited her to ours."

Ann accepted the invitation and heard Crawford preach. "Early the next morning, we got a phone call. It was Ann. She had something on her mind and asked if we could talk. She came over, and Wesley and I talked with her for two hours . . . We knew God was working with her. She was feeling a need in her life."

Throughout the summer they built a friendship by calling to check on her, sharing meals with her, and helping wallpaper her kitchen.

Then, in an evening service, "God spoke to her and she gave her heart to the Lord," Crawford said. "Not a week later, you could already begin to see the fruit in her life. Here she was a baby in the Lord, and searching the scriptures, trying to plug them in her life. Going through that whole summer, just seeing that one conversion, made it all worth it."

By the end of the summer, Crawford and Paul had seen over 100 people visit the church, two home Bible studies started, and a growth in church attendance from five to 28.

Paine is PR writer, NOBTS.

# The Baptist Recurd

Thursday, November 15, 1990

**Published Since 1877** 

# Missionaries ask for 454 new co-workers

By Donald M. Martin

Baptist foreign missionaries second. worldwide want 454 new co-workers in 1991, a 22 percent increase over 1990

requests.
For 1991, overseas mission administrators have asked the Foreign Mission Board to appoint 342 missionaries — or 75 percent of new missionaries requested — for evangelism and church-starting assignments. They requested that 112 of next year's new missionaries fill specialist roles in fields such as medicine, education, and agriculture.

"We will always do a variety of things on the field," said Lloyd Atkin-son, director of the board's personnel selection department. "But it's not surprising that three-fourths of our re-quests are for seminary-trained individuals who'll work in church planting and development — that's the main goal of the Foreign Mission

Mission area directors and regional vice presidents recently compiled a list of the top 30 missionary needs for-1991. A pastor for an international church who will also work as a church planter in Karachi, Pakistan, leads the list. A staff surgeon for Jibla Bap-

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) - Southern tist Hospital in Jibla, Yemen, is

Sixteen top needs call for evangelists and church developers. Also, five nonresidential missionary requests appear on the list - three for Asia and two for North Africa or the Middle East. Nonresidential missionaries target unevangelized people groups in highly restricted areas from bases outside those areas.

Also in Asia, mission administrators are calling for a church planter to work in Bangladesh. The new missionary would plant churches in rural areas, train church leaders, and assist in community development

Southern Africa needs church developers. The top need in Uganda is for a church developer to help plant rural churches near the city of Lira. Nigeria's top need is for a church consultant to evangelize two nomadic people groups — the Hausa and Fulfulde people.

While personnel requests have in-creased, the ratio of requests for evangelists and specialists has not significantly changed in nine years, said Atkinson.

Martin writes for FMB.

#### Mobilization and the season

Pastor James Street of Calvary Church, Jackson, shares an excerpt from a letter written by a chaplain involved in Desert Shield:

"(It) means a lot to soldiers to know they're not forgotten . . . . These have been brutal conditions . . . . Thank God it's getting cooler . . . . Continue to pray for a peaceful

settlement . . . . Thanks for writing . . . In Christ,"

The Season? Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmastide — all seem to blend into an emphasis on the goodness of God extended to his human family. Maybe it would be appropriate to paraphrase my friend's letter and suggest it as an expression of gratitude to the Father for his mobilization of the heavenly forces in our behalf.

Dear God: It means a lot to us to know we're not forgotten. It is tough down here. Thank you for sending your Son. In his name we pray,

James W. Street CH, COL, MSARNG STAFF CHAPLAIN 213TH MED BDE

# EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK



## The sacred how

While we were missionaries in South Korea we had several independent missionaries, sometimes called faith missionaries, as house guests. One wife came in complaining about a sore arm. She had been writing letters all day.

They had 20 churches supporting them and almost half of them had reduced or cut completely the amount sent to them. The family could not af-ford to drive an automobile. Their children had to be taught at home. There were no school funds. He had started a Bible school and could no longer keep it up. Then to top this, the wife had to continuously send letters to American churches begging them for help.

After they had gone I told my wife how grateful I was for the Cooperative Program. We, too, were "faith" mis-sionaries. We had faith in God to move Southern Baptists to give to our mission program.

The Cooperative Program is more than money; it is ministry! It enables churches to do together what they cannot do alone. Through the Cooperative Program we provide emergency relief to flood and storm victims. Our disaster van and volunteer workers make us proud as they serve in hardship areas. We assist in establishing new churches, care for neglected and abused children, feed the hungry, and bring part of a mighty witness to all 50 states and 116 countries. The sun never sets on ministries provided never sets on ministries provided because you give through the Cooperative Program.

The Cooperative Program is not

perfect, but it has served well since 1925. Neither am I always pleased with each item nor each amount given. However, I am not always pleased with my family budget and the items and amounts spent by my wife and children. Sometimes though their insight is better than mine and

because I love them and want what is best for them, I still contribute to the family budget.

I recognize that the accumulated wisdom of a congregation is usually greater than the wisdom of an individual. God also speaks to congregations, churches, as well as to individuals (Acts 13). The Cooperative Program is our lifeline to the Judeas. Samarias, and to every nation. It says

Assuredly there is nothing better on the horizon. Designated offerings mean that some needed ministries will fall through the crack. Southern Baptists have worked hard to produce the Cooperative Program. It is the envy of many denominations and mission boards. Let's work to keep it that

The Cooperative Program is no sacred "cow"; but, as once stated, it is a sacred "how" that has been used of the Lord to "speed them on their



# . . . he thanked God, and took courage"

The apostle Paul was on his way to forget not all his benefits" (Psalm Rome as a prisoner. The believers in Rome came out as far as Appii Forum, and when Paul saw this he was thankful and it encouraged him. God was concerned about his physical needs. He chose to use human means

In an uncertain future, war clouds on the horizon, and an energy-strangling feud in the denomination, we would do well to thank God for our blessings and take courage. "Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." (Ephesians 5:20) is sound advice in 90 A.D. or 1990.

103). It's a time to reflect on the past and be thankful. I read of ancient Egyptians who would plaster their faces with mud, let it dry, and then peel it off. They were clean shaven then. Thank you, Lord, for a sharp razor. Thanks, I needed that.

Grateful are we for things yet to be. Paul knew not what awaited him in Rome; but, thankfully and courageously, he faced it. The promises of God have not dimmed in the midst of time or misfortune. Having the Person, knowing the promises, and being recipients of the provisions, we can face all the Romes of

to answer these needs. Paul was bet-ter off because of their coming.

The psalmist reminds us "... and tomorrow.

# Hymns Baptists sing . . . "Spirit of the Living God"

By William J. Reynolds

Early in 1926, the George T. Stephans Evangelistic Party con-ducted a citywide revival in Orlando, Fla. Daniel Iverson, a Presbyterian minister from Lumberton, N.C., spent several days in Orlando visiting with the team members of Stephans'

Greatly impressed by a sermon he heard on the Holy Spirit, Iverson wrote this chorus that same day. E. Powell Lee, the music director for the the song and introduced it that evening in the tabernacle service. In later years Lee worked in music and education in several Southern Baptist churches, and his later years were at the Home Mission Board.

Throughout his ministry, Iverson pastored Presbyterian churches in Georgia, North and South Carolina, and Florida. During the 24 years he was pastor of the Shenandoah Presbyterian Church, Miami, he led in the organization of seven other churches in the Miami area.

Iverson retired from the active pastorate in 1951, and, in 1962, moved to Asheville, N.C., where he lived until his death in 1977, at age 87.

e in Orlan is sung frequently in our churches as congregations pray that the Spirit of our Lord will "fall fresh on us."

William J. Reynolds is professor of church music at Southwestern Seminary.

# Guest opinion . . .

# Printing negative SBC news is agonizing to state paper editor

By Herb Hollinger

It was overwhelming. Last week's issue of the paper carried news reports from the meetings of three SBC agencies. They just happened to come at the same time on the

But when it was over, and The CSB printed the news stories about the meetings it was overwhelming, to say the least. All three agencies, the Bap-tist Sunday School Board, the Home Mission Board, and the Foreign Mis-sion Board, are going through tur-bulent times. The news wasn't positive

reading.
To add to the difficulty, one item of discussion at the Sunday School Board's meeting concerned a faculty member at Golden Gate Seminary. Thus we felt responsible to give full coverage to that story even though it

is not the kind of story we like to print.

After last week's paper was off the press, the paper's staff felt it was the most "negative" issue we had produced in a long time. On the one hand we feel a responsibility to keep California Southern Baptists informed. That is a trust that we take seriously. We feel a trust that we take seriously. We feel when churches share their mission dollars through the Cooperative Pronave a ru hear what happens to those gifts. Our reporting of the activities of the various SBC agencies keeps California Southern Baptists informed.

Unfortunately of late, that news is often disconcerting. Last week's issue

which covered these three meetings seemed to be the "low" point of that coverage. We struggled as to how to publish the information and yet not accent the negative. When all the information was assembled from those three agencies it was apparent that all

there was seemed "negative." We printed about one-third of the information we received from the Baptist Press news stories, enough, we felt, to inform our readers. We could not have physically printed all the information supplied since our budget does not allow that many pages in an issue. Then we moved most of those stories off the front page and back inside the paper.

But still, the inclusion of these

stories made the entire issue take on an air of "negative news.

We make no apology for printing the news. We feel we are mandated to keep you informed. We do agonize when we have to print so much "negative" news. It seems all the news that comes from Southern Baptist agencies and boards of late is controversial and negative. We cannot control what happens at these Cooperative Program-funded institutions.

we nave intenti tried if last 12 months to take most of the negative news off the front page and put "good" mission stories on page one. We will continue and strengthen our efforts to make the front page informative and positive, especially

with mission news. On occasion the news we must print is overwhelmingly "negative" and such was the case

We do know that because of the kind of activity happening in the SBC right now, all California Southern Baptists need to make the SBC a high priority in their prayers. It is tragic what is happening in the Southern Baptist Convention today. We do not have the expertise and wisdom to find many answers to the controversies. The solutions do not seem to come easy. Since we are primarily a news report-ing ministry we often have to print this kind of news when we would really rather not. We ask for your prayers to know how best to do just that.

We are encouraged by what is hap-pening in California. We have such tremendous challenges and oppor-tunities that our churches and leaders seemed to be concentrating on how to reach the lost and congregationalize the saved. The "SBC" controversy does not seem to have much steam in the Golden State at this point. But it is affecting us.

We are thankful California Southern Baptists have continued to press on with the "main thing." What will happen in the days ahead can only be conjecture at this point.

Reprinted from The California Southern Baptist, Aug. 24, 1989. Herb Hollinger is editor.

## The Baptist Record

Published weekly except weeks of July 4 and Christmas by the Mississippi Baptist Convention, 515 Mississippi Street, Jackson, MS 39201. Subscription \$7.35 a year payable in advance. Second class postage paid at Jackson, Mississippi. The Baptist Record is a member of Southern Baptist Press Association.

	<b>沙斯特别的第三人称单数</b>	
Editor		Don McGregor
Editor-Elect		Guy Henderson
Associate Editor		
Advertising Manager .		
Editorial Associate		
Circulation Manager .		
Bookkeeper		
Proofreader/Secretary		Irene Martin

Baptist Record Advisory Committee: Ferrell Cork, Jackson, chairman; Bruce Hill, Lexington; Raymond Martin Jr., Jackson, vice-chairman; Billy Thames, Wesson; Tommy Tutor, Clarksdale; Randy Von Kanel, Hattiesburg; ex-officio, Evelyn Keyes, secretary, Jackson.

Postmaster: Send changes of address to The BAPTIST RECORD, P. O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.

Send news, communications, and address changes to The Editor, Baptist Record
P. O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205

The Second Front Page

# The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

**Published Since 1877** 

# Committee revises budget, names editor emeritus

By Tim Nicholas

Mississippi Baptist Convention Board approved revision of the 1991 Cooperative Program budget which month. was to be acted upon this week at the Jackson.

The committee also named Don McGregor as editor emeritus of the Baptist Record.

The revision increased the percentage of funds going to Southern Bap-tist causes from 36.75 percent to 37 percent.

This would increase the total 1991 budget from \$20,867,156 to \$20,949,962.

The tradition of raising the percentage going outside the state began in 1983 with the convention voting to consider increasing that amount a halfpercent a year to 1990. The next year's convention, in promoting Planned Growth in Giving, requested that future conventions continue that increase to the year 2000.

The Convention Board linked such

increases to increases in churches'

giving to the Cooperative Program.

This year's budget committee, led by Larry Otis of Tupelo, recalled that linkage when planning the 1991 budget

The Executive Committee of the and only raised the percentage a dississippi Baptist Convention Board quarter point. The full convention board approved that amount last

However, the budget committee Mississippi Baptist Convention in reconvened at Otis' behest to reconsider the amount when, according to Otis, he became aware the entire halfpercent increase "would not be as costly as we first anticipated," and that "we want to maintain the spirit of the 1984 resolution."

Otis said his committee had calculated the additional quarter point would increase the budget by a half-million dollars. Instead, the budget only rose a total of \$82,806.

McGregor, who retires Dec. 31 after 14 years as Baptist Record editor, and two years as associate editor, will become editor emeritus in January. His name will be placed on the paper's masthead signifying the title.

The action came on request of the Baptist Record Advisory Committee, Ferrell Cork, chairman.

In other business, the Executive Committee approved purchase of four new copier machines from A.B. Dick at a cost of \$41,300, including rewiring the rooms in which they are housed.

The committee approved a laptop for the annuity office at a cost of \$2,787, recorded earlier giving approval for the spending of up to \$20,000 for renovation of the Baptist Building's lobby, and \$6,765 for movable storage for videotape from Professional Business Systems, Inc.

The committee agreed that an insurance settlement of \$29,805.94 for a fire at the residence on the property of the Baptist Student Union at the University of Southern Mississippi be spent on local needs. Those needs include removal of the damaged struc-ture, possible expansion of parking facilities, upgrading of air-conditioning system, and other items such as furnishings for the center.

Executive Director-Treasurer Bill Causey received permission from the committee to pursue the possibility of hiring a staff attorney for the board. The committee also replaced Har-

rison Weger, who moved out of Panola Association with Rickey McKay of Good Hope Church, Batesville, to complete a term on the convention

Nicholas is director of communication, MBCB.

# Brotherhood president announces retirement

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP) - James H. Smith, president of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission, announced his decision to retire June 30, 1991, at the fall commission trustee meeting Oct. 26.

The decision to retire is not related

to the Southern Baptist controversy, said Smith, who will turn 70 in May

"There has never been a time when Southern Baptists have been as divided as they are now," Smith told trustees. Under his tenure, the Brotherhood Commission has maintained a position of neutrality, "not that we have compromised any convictions, not that we believe any less than anyone else believes. But we are an agency of the convention and committed to serving all of the churches."

Smith came to the Brotherhood Commission in 1979 following the accidental death in 1978 of former president Glendon McCullough. Prior to leading the Brotherhood Commission, he was executive secretary of the Illinois Baptist State Association for 13

Other Southern Baptist service includes two years as associate executive secretary of the Missouri Baptist Convention, and pastorates in St. Louis, Kansas City, Oklahoma and Arkansas. Smith has spoken in revivals and special meetings around

Raised in Somerville, Ala., Smith and his wife, Nona, reside in Bartlett,

The trustees appointed a search committee to begin the task of finding a new president. The five member committee includes: Wendell Reed, layman, Salem, Va.; Tommy Knotts, director of missions, Aiken, S.C.; Robert Hill, pastor, Cleveland, Miss.; Joe Lenamon, layman, Fort Worth, Texas; and Summerlin.

In other commission business,

trustees voted to:

— Continue World Changers as a program of missions projects and to further study its viability in Southern Baptist life. World Changers is a coed missions education program targeted primarily at an estimated 750,000 Southern Baptist youth who currently are not enrolled in missions education.

- Affirm the Cooperative Program , unified budget with a resolution that discourages the withholding of Cooperative Program gifts from Southern Baptist missions causes and negative designation. It calls for continued support of the Cooperative Program.

Form a task force of five trustees to work with the children and youth division to target Southern Baptist pastors and encourage their support of Royal Ambassadors and High School Baptist Young Men.

# Pollard, Reighard are chairs for Crossover

By Mark Wingfield

ATLANTA (BP) — Dwight "Ike" Reighard and Frank Pollard have been named co-chairmen of Crossover Atlanta, an evangelistic effort in Atlanta prior to the 1991 Southern Baptist Convention.

The two pastors were appointed by SBC President Morris Chapman,

pastor of First Church, Wichita Falls, Texas. Their role will be to enlist churches from across the nation to become partners with Atlanta-area churches in the pre-convention evangelistic

Reighard is pastor of New Hope Church, Fayetteville, Ga., and served as chairman of the committee on order of business at last year's annual meeting. Pollard is pastor of First Church, Jackson, Miss., and is former president of Golden Gate Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif.

In an address to the SBC Executive Committee in September, Chapman had proposed a program called Crossover America to evangelize the nation's cities

Chapman said he hopes Crossover Atlanta will be the first of many programs under the banner of Crossover America. The idea of "crossover" is to place Southern Baptists from all parts of the nation in evangelism proects in key cities, he said.

Crossover Atlanta will be a convention-wide project managed by the Home Mission Board's evangelism section. It will be an expanded version of evangelistic blitzes held in conjunction with annual meetings in Las Vegas, Nev., in 1989 and in New Orleans in 1990.

Plans are already underway for Crossover Indianapolis when Southern Baptists meet there in 1992, said Bobby Sunderland, who is the HMB's coordinator for the special evangelism events.

"I was uncertain about our first effort being in Atlanta until Darrell Robinson (HMB evangelism vice president) informed me that 60 percent of people in the Atlanta area are unchurched," Chapman explained. (See CROSSOVER on page 9)

# Annuity Board trustees funds secure

By Thomas E. Miller Jr.

DALLAS - Trustees of the Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convenciaims/premium imbalance for the first nine months, plan design changes tion unanimously adopted a statement designed to distance the Annuity Board from the politics of the Southern Baptist Convention.

In their regular fall meeting the trustees heard reports, approved department goals, and adopted the 1991 budget.

The "open letter" on the position of the Annuity Board relative to the

denominational problems said:

In light of the controversy in the Southern Baptist Convention, we want to be sure that all those we serve understand our mission and the spirit in which it is being undertaken. We also wish to reassure any who might be concerned about the status of the Board and the security of their funds.

The staff and trustees of the Annuity Board remain united in our task participate in our programs. A spirit of cooperation and dedication characterizes our work.

The Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention is the second largest church pension fund in the United States. The growing assets of the Board total over \$2.8 billion, consisting of contributions and earnings managed for the benefit of members and their beneficiaries. The Board has adopted sound investment policies and retains the services of more than two dozen of America's most outstanding professional outside investment managers. Retirement contributions are credited to members' individual accounts in compliance with Internal Revenue Code Section 403(b). Plan members receive regular reports of the performance of the plan funds they have selected.

The mission and spirit of the Annuity Board remains the same. The trustees and staff of the Board are working faithfully to "serve those

Paul W. Powell, president, told trustees the transition of the Board's medical, life and disability plan from Aetna to Prudential had gone smoothly. Though the Church Comprehensive Medical Plan continued to suffer a

were made that reduced the potential rate increase on Jan. 1, 1991.

Insurance Services Division Director John L. Dudley told trustees the church medical plan lost \$2.1 million in the third quarter, bringing the shortfall to \$5.3 million for nine months. The group plan had a premium shortfall of \$2.9 million for the same nine-month period.

Dudley said rate notices were sent to all church plan participants in October and almost 88 percent will have increases of 10 percent or less on Jan.

1. Thirteen percent of participants will have no increase in rates Jan. 1, though all participants will see an increase in their deductible from \$200 to \$500.

Treasurer Harold D. Richardson reported that earnings declined from \$100 million in the second quarter to \$20.3 million in the third, calling the record a reflection of "the negative outlook the financial markets have toward the economy in general."

"The encouraging part of the performance of the Annuity Board funds is found in a comparison with the markets in general," Richardson added.

The Investment Division reported the Board's Varable Fund, made up most-

y of common stocks, outperformed its target index, the Standard and Poor's 500. The Variable Fund was down 9.05 percent on the year, while the Standard and Poor's list showed a loss of 11.08 percent.

The Annuity Board's Fixed Fund continued to credit 8.9 percent (annualized) earnings, while the Balanced Fund was down 4.39 percent year-to-date. The Short-Term Fund earned 5.6 percent in the first nine months. The Balanced Fund is currently made up of 55 percent common stocks and 45 percent bonds, both of which suffered broad losses when Iraq invaded Kuwait and the United States appeared headed for economic recession.

Richardson said assets grew \$132 million in the 12 months preceding Sept. 30, and contributions from members continued to increase. The \$133.4 million added in the first nine months exceeded the record for the same period in 1989 by \$7.1 million.

Miller is vice president, PR, Annuity Board.

# Lee Porter pressured to quit SBC post

NASHVILLE (ABP) — Lee Porter reportedly is being pressured to quit his job as registration secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Although neither Porter nor officials at the Baptist Sunday School Board employee, was unseated as recording secretary by David Atchison of Nashville, 9,206 to 8,044. The recording secretary post includes a seat on the Executive Committee; the registration secretary job does not. Bradley reportedly became a target for defeat when he joined a minority report opposing cutting the budget

According to informed sources, Porter has been told that he cannot work for the SSB and be SBC registra-

tion secretary.
In mid-October, Porter 61, was removed from his position as a design editor of adult Sunday School lesson materials and assigned to a non-

editor of adult Sunday School lesson materials and assigned to a non-editorial position.

The disciplinary action was taken "as a result of remarks made during the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in New Orleans," according to an official news release issued by the SSB's office of communications.

The news release reported Porter "conducted a Wednesday afternoon session June 13 in New Orleans with a seminary class from Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky."

It continued: "During the two-and-one-half hour dialogue session held in the messenger registration area of the Louisiana Superdome, Porter made critical interpretations and personal comments on a wide range of issues in the 12-year SBC controversy."

Porter was reassigned, according to the official release, because he "violated the established parameters of the Baptist Sunday School Board for acceptable employee conduct. His use of inflammatory language has impacted his performance as an employee and the board's relationship with the Southern Baptist constituency" with the Southern Baptist constituen-

The news release reported only that Porter had been reassigned as pro-jects consultant in the Sunday School youth-adult department and that the 14-year employee had written a letter of apology to the administration and the board of trustees.

The release, however, did not deal with the reported instructions from administrators that Porter relinquish his post as SBC registration secretary.

Associated Baptist Press' sources were unclear whether the demand by administrators was for Porter to resign immediately or merely not to seek re-election when the SBC meets in Atlanta, June 4-6, 1991

If Porter resigns, the Executive Committee of the SBC may appoint an interim replacement when it meets in

February 1991.

As registration secretary, Porter has been responsible for registering all credentialed messengers to the annual meetings and for overseeing the taking and tabulating of votes. Ruling fundamental-conservatives have been unhappy with Porter for several years, particularly since he differed from an article by Lonnie Wilkey in with them over voting at the conthe Nov. 7 issue of the (TN) Baptist troversial 1985 annual meeting in and Reflector; the Oct. 30 news

He was re-elected at the 1990 annual the Indiana Baptist.)

seat on the Executive Committee; the registration secretary job does not.

Bradley reportedly became a target for defeat when he joined a minority report opposing cutting the budget funds from the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

Both Porter and Bradley were elected to their jobs in 1977.

Gary Cook, vice president for

church programs and services at the SSB, would not confirm or deny Porter has been told to resign as registration secretary or leave the board.

However, Cook told the (Tennessee)

Baptist and Reflector the matter had been discussed with Porter. He also observed that Porter's role as an SBC officer "created the problem in the

"As part of our whole discussion related to the incident we talked about his not running again," Cook said, but would not confirm whether Porter was instructed by board officials to announce he would not seek re-election

One trustee, Larry Holly, a medical doctor from Beaumont, Texas, was surprised when asked about the

reports Porter has been told to quit the SBC job.

"Didn't they (board officials) release the details of the disciplinary action to the press?" Holly asked, then quickly noted any information should come from the president (Elder).

Holly, who circulated letters in 1989 seeking the dismissal of President Elder, said he had written a number of letters about the Porter matter.

"I thought what he did warranted summary dismissal," Holly said, but added he "left the president the option of how he would handle it."

Holly said he does not expect the

Holly said he does not expect the matter to come before the February 1991 meeting of SSB trustees, but added it could if it were proven that "Lee Porter talked to SBC Today."

SBC Today, an independent moderate-conservative publication, included in its October issue an editorial saying Porter had been told to quit as registration secretary.

The events leading to Porter's demotion and reported instructions to quit as registration secretary were ignited by an article in the Sept. 11, 1990 issue of the Indiana Baptist, written by Tammi Ledbetter, managing editor. Copies of the article were placed on the desks of members of the SBC Executive Committee during their Sept. ecutive Committee during their Sept. 17-19 meeting.

(This story was written by ABP Interim News Director Dan Martin. Adrelease from the SSB, and articles in



#### November: "M Night"

CLARKSVILLE, Ind. — Tom Evitts (right), pastor of First Southern Baptist Church in Clarksville, Ind., participates in a discipleship training group with Edward Vance, left, and George Bowles. They typify the 1990 "M" Night theme, "Accepting the Challenge: DiscipleALL." Many of Southern Baptists' 1,200 associations will be conducting "M" Night meetings and rallies during November. (Photo by Jim Veneman.)

## Cate resigns from GGBTS; school's deficit cut

MILL VALLEY, Calif. (BP) -Robert L. Cate, dean of academic affairs at Golden Gate Seminary since 1984, has resigned to accept a position with Oklahoma State University.

Cate's resignation, effective Jan. 31, 1991 was among a number of items considered by Golden Gate's trustees during their regular October meeting in Mill Valley, Calif.

Trustees also heard the seminary probably will end the 1989-90 fiscal year with a \$211,509 deficit, about onehalf that projected earlier by officials. The actual audit is almost completed, said Gordon Fercho, vice president for business affairs, who gave the deficit projection. If his projection is correct, the seminary began 1990-91 fiscal year July 1 with slightly more than a \$500,000 deficit in its current fund.

The seminary's 1990-91 budget is \$4,869,697, down from the revised 1989-90 budget of \$4,978,908 and the 1988-89 budget of \$5,467,007. Severe cutbacks, including no salary increase for faculty and staff, were included in the budget, said Fercho.

Cate's resignation caught trustees by surprise, since his letter was submitted to seminary President William O. Crews Jr., three days before the trustees arrived on campus. Saying the resignation letter was "one of the most difficult . . . I have ever written," Cate said he had been invited to fill the Phoebe Schertz Young Chair of Religion at Oklahoma State University.

Cate, 58, cited growing administrative demands and the wish to

"fulfill my primary call of making the Bible live through my teaching and writing ministries

Further, to deny that the crisis within our denomination has played a part in my decision would be utter-ly false, but it has in no way been the major con: deration.

In other business; trustees:

Approved a resolution of support for the SBC Cooperative Program unified budget;

- Re-elected all officers. This includes Herman Wooten, retired California director of missions from Sacramento, as chairman:

- Passed a resolution to strengthen the seminary's commitment to 'securing a broader representation of ethnics to participate in seminary life." Nearly 40 percent of the seminary's students are said to be

Associate academic dean D. Glenn Saul was criticized by several trustees for attending the meeting of SBC moderates in Atlanta who initiated the Baptist Cooperative Missions Program. Saul's trip was financed by faculty members and Saul said he attended as an "interested Southern Baptist."

Saul said he told the administration he was going, but did not ask permission. Trustees said Saul's presence at the meeting gave the improper impression of support for the moderate movement by the seminary faculty. Saul told the trustees he abstained from voting at the meeting and several times reminded groups that the seminary was very dependent upon the Cooperative Program for support.

In Crews' state of the seminary address, he noted the removal of the 'notation we had carried for many years concerning the quality of work being done in our off-campus centers. Of equal importance was the fact that ATS (Association of Theological Schools) now accredits the degrees we offer at our Southern California campus as if it were a free-standing institution."

# **Faculty** opposes new guidelines

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP) — Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's faculty voted unanimously Nov. 1 to ask the school's trustees to "rescind" their action establishing new employment guidelines for

The faculty action came in response to a trustee decision in September to add the 1987 Southern Baptist Peace Committee report as a guideline for hiring, promoting, and granting tenure to faculty at the Louisville, Ky., seminary.

Earlier, national officers of the seminary's alumni association also urged trustees to rescind their action.

The faculty statement claims that decision creates "significant pro-blems" in the faculty's relationship with the board of trustees, "misuses" the Peace Committee Report, and "introduces ambiguity and confusion" into the seminary's instructional

In a separate action, faculty also requested an opportunity to discuss with trustees their concerns about the new employment guidelines. Seminary President Roy L. Honeycutt was asked to communicate their request to the board and to appoint a faculty committee to meet with a representative group of trustees.
The Peace Committee Report, for-

mulated in response to several years of theological and political turmoil in the Southern Baptist Convention, was approved by messengers to the 1987 SBC meeting in St. Louis. The report contained a section of "findings" from the committee's work and a series of recommendations for resolving the

Since the report's adoption, considerable debate has focused on four illustrations included in the "findings." In that section, the report declared that most Southern Baptists who believe the Bible is true believe that "Adam and Eve were real per-sons," "named authors did indeed write the biblical books attributed to them," miracles "did indeed occur as supernatural events in history," and "the historical narratives given by the biblical authors were indeed accurate and reliable.

At a called meeting Sept. 24, Southern's trustees voted "not to revisit" the 1986 trustee report to the Peace Committee. The report cleared several faculty members who had been accused of teaching outside accepted Baptist doctrine and the seminary's governing theological statement.

Trustees then voted 36 to 14 to add the Peace Committee Report — "both findings and recommendations" - as a guideline for hiring new faculty and for promoting or granting tenure to existing faculty.

#### Swiftwater Church, Greenville, will celebrate 50th year

Swiftwater Church, Greenville, will have homecoming and celebrate its 50th anniversary on Nov. 18. Sunday School will be held at 9:45 a.m. and worship service at 11 a.m. A noon meal will be served in the fellowship hall. Invited guests as well as local members of the church will take part in the afternoon singing along with history of the church and special tree planting. Gene Foshee is pastor.

# Don't wear out welcome, agencies warned

agencies may wear out their welcome in Eastern Europe if they continue to recruit the best evangelical leaders there to head regional branches of the agencies, according to a report in the Overseas Council Newsletter. Some mission agencies have recruited

GREENWOOD, Ind. — U.S. mission pastors of growing congregations and gencies may wear out their welcome promising students in Eastern European seminaries. "Plundering the meager storehouse of Eastern European (leaders) is one kind of free market practice that should not be encouraged," the newsletter said. The

Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has not engaged in such prac-tices, said Keith Parker, who directs the agency's work in Europe. The board works with Baptist unions, or conventions, and their churches in Eastern Europe, he said.

#### Thursday, November 15, 1990

#### West Virginia Convention celebrates 20th anniversary

OTHER CONVENTIONS

PARKERSBURG, W. Va. (BP) — The West Virginia Convention of Southern Baptists celebrated its 20th anniversary during the annual meeting at Grace Baptist Church in Parkersburg, Nov. 2-3.

The convention adopted a budget of \$1,508,309, of which 27 percent of undesignated gifts will be forwarded through the Cooperative Program unified budget for world mission causes. This represents a 0.5 percent increase over the 1990 budget allocation.

The convention passed resolutions on abortion, prayer for denomina-tional unity, and prayer for the Middle East situation.

The abortion resolution expressed

opposition to abortion "for conve nience, of any unborn children throughout the full nine months of pregnancy." It also said that West Virginia Southern Baptists "stand in opposition to the state of West Virginia spending any monies whatsoever to provide in any way for abortions."

The resolution regarding denomina-tional unity was a call to prayer for the state convention and the Southern Baptist Convention, "that we all might be one" as Jesus prayed in the Gospel of John, Chapter 17.

Eddie Gandy, pastor of Westmoreland Church in Huntington, was re-elected without opposition to a second term as president.

#### Peace, harmony, enthusiasm characterize ISBF annual meeting

WEST DES MOINES, Iowa (BP) — Messengers to the Iowa Southern Baptist Fellowship elected a new president, passed a record \$1 million budget, and passed resolutions on prayer and sanctity of life during their 19th annual meeting Oct. 19-20. In addition to 126 messengers, 78

visitors attended the meeting.

Berry Stewart, pastor of Albia Road
Church in Ottumwa, was elected
president of the fellowship.

For the first time in the history of the fellowship the approved budget exceeded \$1 million. A budget of \$1,002,155 was approved unanimously upon recommendation of the administrative committee without

The budget includes \$38,515 for world missions through the Cooperative Program unified budget. This represents 18 percent of proposed Cooperative Program budget, an increase of 1 percent over last year.

The resolution on the sanctity of life, after affirming that man is created in God's image, that scriptural evidence and personal experience affirm God's love for man, and that the laws of country and state "disregard the sanctity of preborn life," stated that "the Iowa Southern Baptist Fellowship stand with the Southern Baptist Convention in honoring God's wisdom in creating each human life both born and preborn."

#### Minnesota-Wisconsin elects Creamer

BLOOMINGTON, Minn. (BP) — Messengers to the Minnesota-Wisconsin Southern Baptist Convention elected a new president, adopted a \$1,557,608 budget, and approved several resolutions during the seventh annual meeting.

The new budget, up 1.5 percent over the current budget, calls for 26 percent of all Cooperative Program unified budget receipts from the churches going to national and world mission causes, the same percentage as

Larry Creamer, pastor of Milton

Fellowship Church in Ft. Atkinson, Wis., was elected president. Bob Phillips, a layman from Highland Crest Church in Green Bay, Wis., was elected first vice president, and Bob Edwards, pastor of New Hope Chapel in Minneapolis, was elected second vice president.

After debate, messengers adopted a resolution encouraging a one-year boycott of Minneapolis-based Dayton Hudson stores due to their financial contributions to Planned Parenthood. The resolution further encouraged Southern Baptists "to become involv-Church in Milton, Wis., and ed in the long-term war on abortion."

#### Arkansas Baptists re-elect officers

Immanuel Church in Little Rock for their 137th session.

President Mike Huckabee, pastor of Beech Street Church in Texarkana was re-elected by acclamation. Vicepresidents Daniel Grant and H.E. Ouachita Baptist University and Williams Baptist College respectively, also were re-elected.

Thirteen resolutions were passed by the messengers. Among them was a resolution on the Sanctity of Human year.

#### Colorado increases CP gifts

DURANGO, Colo. (BP) — Messengers to the Colorado Baptist General Convention annual meeting voted to increase their Cooperative Program unified budget by one-half percent over last year's contributions of 28 percent.

The budget for the 1990-91 fiscal

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (BP) — Life, which spoke not only to the rights Arkansas Baptists met Oct. 30-31 at of a pre-born baby, but against of a pre-born baby, but against technologies to make abortion easier.

> Another point of discussion dealt with two resolutions on homosexuality, with some messengers expressing concern about the exclusion on homosexuals from the ministry.

> Messengers adopted a \$14,061,000 budget, a four percent increase over last year. The percentage of gifts going to Southern Baptist causes will be 41.5 percent, up .25 percent from last

year is \$2,480,000.

Lewis Adkinson, pastor of Circle Drive Church in Colorado Springs was re-elected convention president.

A resolution opposing a gambling referendum on the Colorado ballot in six small mining towns was passed:

# Moscow choir seeks to build bridges

NASHVILLE (BP) - Replacing at the Moscow Baptist Church in adenemy images" with friendships between Christian brothers and sisters who happen to live in the United States and the Soviet Union that is the purpose of the 23-day U.S. tour of the Logos Choir of the Moscow Baptist Church.

Jointly sponsored by the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America and New Call to Peacemaking, the three-week tour includes stops in nine states and Washington. In Nashville, the 42-member choir and orchestra performed in Nov. 2 chapel services at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board and the Southern Baptist Convention building.
"We want to correct misconcep-

tions, misunderstandings, and mistrust between our countries," said Eugene Rouzski, associate director of the international department of the All-Union Council of Evangelical Christians-Baptists in the Soviet Union.

We came with love, to build bridges and destroy enemy images between us. This is our hope, that the Lord will give us mutual understanding," said Rouzski.

The Sunday School Board chapel service concluded with the choir and employees singing "Blessed Assurance" and "God Be With You "Blessed Till We Meet Again" together in Russian and English.

Bill Anderson, editor of The Church Musician, gave a selection of music produced by the board to Evgeni Gon-charenko, director of the choir and a composer/arranger.

We hope our relationships will not stop with our concerts here," said Goncharenko. "We hope for future cooperation between our churches." He cited the possibility of regular ex-changes of Christian music groups between Baptists of the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

Established in 1986, the choir made its first appearance outside the Soviet Union that year at the International Conference of Itinerant Evangelists in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. The choir sings in twice weekly services



NASHVILLE - Bill Anderson, editor of "The Church Musician" magazine at the Sunday School Board, gave copies of his magazine to Evgeni Goncharenko, director of the Logos Choir of the Moscow Baptist Church, during a visit by the choir to the board. (BP photo by Jim Veneman)

People are always blaming their circumstances for what they are. I don't believe in circumstances. The people who get on in this world are the people who get up and look for the circumstances they want and, if they can't find them, make them. George Bernard Shaw

dition to regular appearances at evangelistic crusades and in hospitals and prisons.

The repertoire of the choir includes classical church music, contem-porary and traditional Russian hymns, as well as western Protestant music and contemporary American gospel songs. The orchestra played "How Great Thou Art" to open the

chapel service at the SBC building.
"The Lord is doing something in our
great country," said Rouzski. "You
(Southern Baptists) have been praying for years for the liberty of all." ing for years for the liberty of all Christians to worship."

"The aim of this choir is to evangelize people through music," said Rouzski

Lawson writes for BSSB.

#### Investment pays off

TAIPEI, Taiwan — While in language school in Taipei, new Southern Baptist missonaries John and Deborah Upton banked in a small branch near their home. They often practiced their Chinese language skills with Miss Lin, a friendly bank employee. After completing language study, the Uptons moved to Taitung and no longer had contact with Lin.

More than a year later, Upton was in Taipei and went to the bank to cash a check. Lin ran up and hugged him, saying, "Wo ren shr Ju!" (I know the Lord!) "She's telling me she's become a Christian," he realized, getting over the shock of this very un-Chinese greeting in public. Lin had accepted Christ and wanted to thank him for witnessing to her. Later he had a chance to witness to her co-workers.

#### Dallas church establishes environmental stewardship committee

secularists and goddess-worshipping New Agers, according to George Mason, pastor of Wilshire Church in

"We decided that we would not allow environmental issues to be coopted by the secular or religious left. Our church is doing what it is doing not because we worship Mother Nature but because we are stewards of God's creation," he said.

Following a series of sermons on stewardship last year, including one directly related to stewardship of creation, Wilshire Church established an environmental stewardship committee.

As one of its first projects, the 11-person committee did a comprehensive analysis of Wilshire's current practices related to kitchen procedures, office policies, waste

Clarke College presents Christmas on the Circle December 3, 1990 6:00, 7:00 and 8:00 p.m.

Admission — Free

DALLAS (BP) — Ecology is too important to be left to tree-hugging grounds. The report included specific recommendations concerning the use of recyclable and recycled materials and the use of pesticides on the church

"We felt it was important for us to assess our own practices and look at our own facilities before going out to change the world," said Claudia Barner, chairman of Wilshire's environmental stewardship committee.

#### **OLD BIBLES REBOUND**

A price, binding and style to meet every need. Quality workmanship guaranteed Write for illustrated price folder.

"Internationally known specialists" NORRIS BOOKBINDING CO. Box 305-C — Greenwood, Miss. 38930

Pews, pulpits, baptistries Van Winkle stained glass, carpet Church folding doors Furnishings & **Pew Upholstery** 

Box 501, Fulton, MS. 38843 In MS. Toll Free 1-800-624-9627

We remodel & paint

HATE HOMEN	AISSION B	OARD, SI	BC	
\$7,000,000		SER		F
HURCH LOAN COL	LATERA	LIZED	BON	DS

Proceeds from the sale of the Bonds, along with other available funds of Home Mission Board, will be used to make direct loans to Baptist churches affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention for the financing of sites and the construction of buildings in keeping with the Bold Mission Thrust emphasis of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Interest on the Bonds will be payable quarterly. The Bonds will be offered with maturity dates varying from eighteen months to fifteen years and the interest rate will vary from 8.5% to 11% depending upon the maturity date as set forth in the Prospectus. Minimum purchase is \$500.00.

Copies of the Prospectus may be obtained by calling or writing:

HOME MISSION BOARD, SBC ATTENTION: CHURCH LOANS DIVISION 1350 Spring Street, NW; Atlanta, GA 30367 1-800-HMB-BOND (462-2663)

This announcement is neither an offer to sell nor a solicitation of offers to buy any of these securities. The offering is made only by Prospectus. Please send a copy of the prospectus for the Series F issue of Home Mission

Na	ame.			
Ad	ldress			
Cit	ty	State	Zip	

# New church grows like Delta cotton

By Anne W. McWilliams

Many predicted that Victory Tem-ple would lose members when the Greenville church moved from a rented place into a trailer. Not so. "Attendance has doubled," points out the pastor, Eddie Jones. "We've packed as many as 164 in here, if you count the children in laps."

Three acres in a pecan grove, where the trailer is parked, Victory Temple owns. The site measures "200 feet across and 637 straight back." The trailer is provided by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, courtesy of the Margaret Lackey Offering for

State Missions.

Three years ago, First Church, Greenville, Kiely Young, pastor, in-vited Eddie Jones to start a Black Southern Baptist mission in their town, with resources the church would provide. Jones, a New Orleans Seminary graduate, who had been pastor of the first Black Southern Baptist church in the state, at Moss Point, moved to Greenville in October,

He began Victory Temple Church in February, 1988. His picture is on the cover of the September-October 1990 issue of MissionUSA magazine; inside the issue is a story about the church he planted in the Delta.

This church has become in a short time one of the largest Black churches in Greenville, with now around 120 members, in spite of the fact that its families are constantly moving away to look for better jobs.

Jones baptizes converts in the sanctuary of First Baptist Church.

Last June, Victory Temple members began construction of a building behind the trailer that will house sanctuary at one end and classrooms and office at the other. By September, the brick exterior was up, the roof on, and the framework upon the interior. Members are doing most of the labor; one man was hired to work a couple of hours at night to oversee the volunteer work. Also three men from Marion County have given some building help — Glen Nace, Bill Purvis, and Lamar Hataway.

Pastor Jones said he thinks the next building to go up should be a larger sanctuary, rather than a second education building. He explained, "Dr. Allen Webb down at Pascagoula told me once, 'Don't try to make these Black folks into white ones.' That was one of the best pieces of advice I ever got. I have tried to remember that. I know that Black folks are worship-oriented. A sanctuary will draw them. Then we can think about the education building.'

Victory Temple, he added, has more men than the average Black church. It has eight deacons, and enough men to have a good-sized Brotherhood, besides the WMU, Discipleship Training, and Sunday School

As to problems and their solutions: "There are several strikes against the Black church in the beginning," Jones said. "For one thing, the majority of Blacks believe in paying dues, \$5 or \$10 a month, to the church. I want us to get out of this system and teach

them to tithe, and then we'll pick up

First Church, Greenville, pays 60 percent of his salary and the remainder of it comes from the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board and the Home Mission Board. First Church, Greenville, paid \$5,000 for program and curriculum materials the first year, and has been lessening



Eddie Jones, pastor, talks about Victory

that amount by a thousand each year. "Other than that," Jones said, "We are paying our own bills and taking care of ourselves."

In relation to salary, another pro-blem has been, he said, that "folks in the area are not used to a Black pastor being full-time. They are used to his having another job to help with his expenses, so they have to realize he needs a larger salary if he is not also working elsewhere.

A third problem is that so many families constantly are moving away. "We have had families move to California, Ohio, Alabama, Kansas . . . . Six or seven families have moved each summer. Yet in spite of this we are not only maintaining our numbers in attendance, but are still growing larger at the same time!

When they move, we lose a lot of leaders and then we have to retrain, over and over. This takes a lot of work; and I try to get out and visit and witness, and have been overseeing the building project, too."

When Jones first arrived in Green-ville, the local Black ministers re-jected and shunned him. They would

not lend him any of their equipment or help him find a meeting place. Finally they put him to the test, before accepting him. They asked him to preach at one of their meetings and assigned him a topic, "It Is Finished," one the seven last sayings of Jesus on the cross. After he got to the meeting, they changed his topic to "Son, Behold Thy Mother," (testing his theology by the quick change). But he preached on the new subject. When he had finished, they told him, "You are OK. You passed the test."

"I really got initiated," he said recently. "But after that, they became

my friends, and they still are."
Victory Temple's growth should not be compared with that of white churches' growth, he said. "But, it is good when compared to other Black chur-

ches in the same type of situation."
When pastors of other Black Southern Baptist churches in the state called Jones about their problems, he said he has told them, "Be encouraged. Hang in there. Things will get better. People will see what you are doing. You just hang in there."



Joseph Wiley, left, electrician, helps to finish and check the wiring Victory Temple members have done. For the church, he lowered his rates. He said he's a Catholic, but his wife is a Baptist



Romella McDuffy plays the piano.



Victory Temple members clap as they sing during a Wednesday night meeting.



Vacation Bible School during the summer resulted in two families joining the Victory Temple Church. One of them was the Butts family, after LaShaundra Butts, second from right above, made a profession of faith. Others shown are Lela Butts, Astrid Butts, Mable Butts, and Torey Butts.

# capsules

#### **CLeaR-TV** lifts Burger King boycott

TUPELO, MS — Christian Leaders for Responsible Television (CLeaR-TV) has announced that they are ending their boycott of Burger King as of Nov. 1. CLeaR-TV called for a one-year boycott Sept. 1 because of the company's sponsorship of sex, violence, profanity, and anti-Christian stereotyping on television.

#### Italian Baptists suffer second property disaster

ROME (BP) - Italian Baptists have been hit with their second calamity in less than a month.

Sometime during the night of Oct. 21, thieves used blowtorches to penetrate a "thief-proof" door of the Italian Baptist Union's Audio-Visual Production Service (SPAV) in Rome. Working undisturbed in the mostly empty building, they stole more than \$150,000 worth of video recording equipment.

The theft followed the Oct. 2 burning of a Baptist printing operation in southern Italy. Arsonists with suspected Mafia links entered the ground floor of Altamura Baptist Church and set fire to the cooperative printing establishment there. Damages have been estimated at more than \$220,000.

#### House funds arts

WASHINGTON, D.C. (EP) — Despite hours of debate over obscenity and pornography, the House of Representatives voted Oct. 11 to fund the National Endowment for the Arts

for another three years.

The vote of 382-42 came after Congress rejected proposals to restrict what art would be eligible for federal grants. A proposal by Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (R-Calif.) to disallow government funding of certain types of projects, including child por-nography and flag desecration, was defeated 249-175. A proposal by Rep. Philip Crane (R-Ill.) to abolish the endowment was defeated by a wider margin (361-64).

#### Spanish Baptists join hands with Mexican Baptists

MADRID, SPAIN (ebps) — Baptists in Spain and Mexico have agreed to join hands for the purpose of evangelism and mission. An agreement between Baptist leaders of the two countries was sealed on Oct. 12, in Denia, Spain, when Hector Flores and his wife were officially welcomed as the first Mexican Baptist foreign missionaries to Spain.

Flores has been working in Denia, with the support of the Mexican Baptist women's organization.

Flores will soon be transferred to the Island of Ibiza, Spain, where he

will be involved in evangelism and church growth.

The addition of Mexico brings to four the number of nationalities currently represented among missionaries who cooperate with the Baptist Union in Spain — Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, and the USA.

#### Piggy banks help build seminary

TAIPEI, Taiwan — Children's piggy banks were among the offerings from Chinese Christians that helped build a library and dormitory at Taiwan Baptist Theological Seminary. The buildings, begun in 1988 and costing \$2 million, were nearly paid for when they were dedicated during graduation ceremonies in June. Less than 40 percent of the funds came from Southern Baptists' Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Chinese Christians gave the rest.

#### Court backs obscenity crackdown

WASHINGTON, D.C. (EP) - The U.S. Supreme Court supported the federal government's crackdown on obscenity on Oct. 15, rejecting freespeech arguments.

With only one dissenting vote, the Court let stand the forced closing of three adult bookstores and nine video rental outlets in Virginia.

Housetops is a supplement to the Baptist Record.

It is produced by the Mississippi Baptist convention Board in cooperation with the Baptist Record.

What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light: and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the housetops. Matthew 10:27 NAS

November 15, 1990

# Thousands of Mississippians Say Thanks...

For Bringing Them To Jesus
Through New Growth Units

Bold New Growth-Mississippi has challenged every church to recognize the potential for growth in its community. Mississippi is a mission field! Today, there are people who are unsaved and unchurched in every community.

"Visitation is responsible for eight new units in our Sunday School and Discipleship Training." Fifty-eight additions have resulted from starting three new units.

"God did it. Last year...our Discipleship Training attendance grew from 20 to 75 through five new groups."

Reports from across the state indicate that many Mississippi churches are experiencing growth in starting new units. New Sunday School classes comprise the largest number of growth units established. However, churches have added Discipleship Training, Music, WMU, Brotherhood, and other mission groups to the growing list of new work.

Bold New Growth-Mississippi provides churches a three-prong approach to help put growth on the cutting edge of church life.

1. Churches grow by starting new units. Churches grow internally by starting new units within existing organizations. These new units bring vitality to the church's life.

•Reaching People - New Sunday School Units

•Developing Believers - New Discipleship and Music Units

•Strengthening Missions - New Mission Units through WMU and Brotherhood

2. Churches grow by reaching outside their church. Growth occurs when new groups are formed by reaching the unsaved and unchurched where they are.

Outreach Bible Studies
 Mission VBS and Backyard Bible Clubs

Satellite or Mission Sunday Schools
 Big A Clubs

3. Churches grow by helping to start new churches. Growth in reaching

new people in Mississippi communities occurs as new churches and missions are

Mission churches to reach unreached pockets of people

New Church Starts

• Ethnic churches to reach Mississippi's growing ethnic groups

New SBC black churches to reach Mississippi's 550,000 unchurched blacks

You can be a part of your church's effort to grow through starting new units. Pray for your church every day. Be willing to become an active participant in the starting of new classes and other growth units. Volunteer to be a leader of a new growth unit. In their book, *Megatrends 2000*, ten new directions for the 1990's, John Naisbitt and Patricia Aburdene state: "Mississippi's nearly 2,000 Baptist churches, which already claim more than 650,000 members, have joined together in Bold New Growth-Mississippi, which will reach out to inactive members, singles the elderly, ethnic groups, and the handicapped." Mississippi Baptists' growth plan has captured the imagination of business and community leaders across the nation. Help your church become a part of this exciting plan for growth.

Jannie Brown, WMU director at Auburn Baptist Church, Lee Association, tells of a priority of the WMU council: starting new units.

"For the past two years," says Brown, "we have been able to start a Baptist Young Women organization, two Girls in Action organizations, and one Mission Friends organization."

With a church membership of about 325, and an average Sunday School attendance of 190, the WMU membership at the end of 1989-90 was 111.

She attributes the new unit starting success to two things: "trained, enthusiastic leaders ready to go to work, and our determination to offer missions education to every age level in our church," said Brown. She added that the support and encouragement of her pastor Bob O'Neal was invaluable.

# Deacon Emphasis Week January 13-20, 1991

MISSISSIPPI

. . . a plan with specific actions that highlights deacon ministries and involves deacon training and service with the purpose to build a team relationship, secure involvement in specific ministry, and develop skills for ministry.

For suggested activities and projects contact Matt Buckles, Church Administration Pastoral Ministries Department, MBCB, 968-3800, extension 3907.

#### SUIT PROJECT

#### WHAT IS IT?

For over 26 years Baptists in Mississippi have enjoyed sending new suits to the pastors in new work areas.

This is our way of letting the pastors in these areas of Southern Baptist life know that we care about and support them in their labors for our Lord.

#### COST: \$130.00 per suit

Mississippi Baptists say "Merry Christmas" to Pastors in North Dakota, South Dakota and Montana!

#### WHAT YOU CAN DO:

Baptist Men's groups, individuals, churches, etc. can send their gifts payable to:

MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION BOARD

Attention:

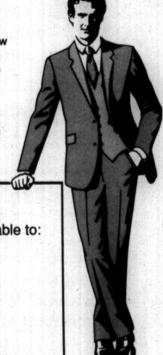
**Brotherhood Department** 

P. 0. Box 530

Jackson, MS 39205-0530

Designate on your check: Suit Project

Sponsored by the Brotherhood Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board



# Church Business Administrators Conference

Thursday, January 24, 1991 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Woodland Hills Baptist Church, Jackson

#### **Program Highlights**

The new property and casualty insurance program available to ministers and churches will be introduced by Douglas Day, vice-president in charge of Annuity Board Property and Casualty Insurance.

Medical, life, and disability insurance as well as the annuity program and church staff salaries will be discussed by Bill Sellers, Annuity Representative MBCB.

A discussion of the new book, A Maintenance Manual for Southern Baptist Churches, compiled by Tim A. Holcomb will be led by business administrators and ministers from our state.

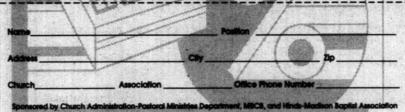
#### There is no charge for this conference.

You will be on your own for lunch

For further information, contact: Julius Thompson, Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Department Director, MBCB, 968-3800, extension 3908

James Webster, Director of Church Services, Hinds-Madison Baptist Association,

complete the following registration form and return to Church Administration Dept., 9 0 Box 530 Jackson, MS 39205.



"Helping to bring Mississippi and the world to Jesus"



**DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING** 

Helping
you follow Jesus...
Helping your
church be
the church Jesus
intended



#### Key to Better Adult Discipleship Training Programs

THE BAPTIST STUDY LEADER

Available through the Customer Service Center where literature is ordered.

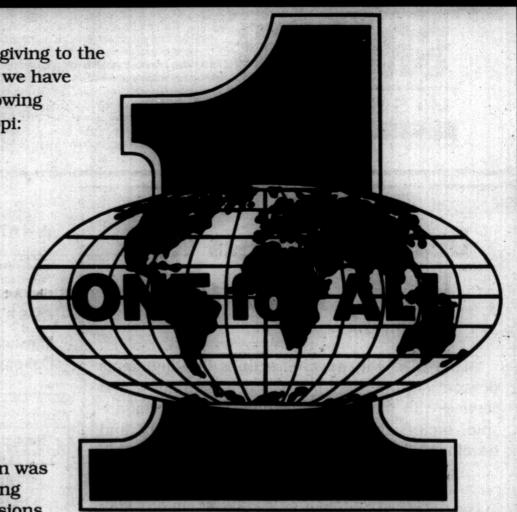
The Baptist Study Leader is the wave of the future in Discipleship Training. It is the new discovery of the nineties. It will enhance the continuing and vital ministries of Baptist Adults and Baptist Young Adults. It will strengthen Discipleship Training groups and assist training group leaders and study group leaders in presenting interesting and exciting programs. The Baptist Study Leader is for you and your church.

## MAKE THE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM DECISION

Mississippi has always been among the top states in per capita giving to the Cooperative Program. This is no time to default on the promises we have made to Christ and to ourselves for reaching the world. The following statistics show church undesignated giving patterns in Mississippi:

- Almost 4 out of 10 churches give 5% or less through the Cooperative Program.
- Almost 3 out of 4 churches give 10% or less through the Cooperative Program.
- About 1 church in 5 gives between 11% and 15% through the Cooperative Program.
- About 1 church in 14 gives more than 15% through the Cooperative Program.

Where does your church fit among the others of our state? When was the last time your church increased its Cooperative Program giving percentage? Why not make this fall a time for studying your missions commitment and your Cooperative Program gifts?



cooperative program

Reaching out to people has become way of life for Mississippi's Baptists! Thousands of Mississippi Baptists have recommitted themselves to the biblical task of reaching people for Bible study. salvation, and meaningful church membership. They see their Sunday School as the way to reach people on a week by week basis.

There are definite, practical reasons why we should seek to enroll every person possible in our church's Bible teaching program.

- 1. Sunday School is the church organized to teach the Bible to all ages on a regular basis.
- 2. Sunday School is the church organized to reach all persons in the community who are unsaved and
- 3. Forty-five to fifty-five percent of those enrolled attend Sunday School week by week.
- 4. When persons are enrolled, they become the definite responsibility of a class or department for Bible study attendance, evangelism, ministry, and Christian development.
- 5. Persons enrolled feel more responsible for attending, especially when Sunday School leaders are alert to contact absentees effectively week by week.
- 6. By enlisting unsaved and unaffiliated church members in Sunday School, the church has a greater opportunity for winning them to Christ and helping them to become active in the Lord's work.

#### Why Start New **Sunday School Units?**

New Sunday School classes and departments grow as much as ten times faster than existing classes or departments. They tend to reach more new people for enrollment in Sunday School. New classes often meet specific needs not being met by existing

If your church has started new classes during the past month, you can help by welcoming this as a change to reach more people. Members with positive attitudes about new classes and departments will support their church's attempt to reach more people.

Let's join together in prayer that we can help bring Mississippi and the world to Jesus.

#### **BOLD NEW GROWTH** —

Rev. Judd Allen is pastor at Ogden Baptist Church in Yazoo County. Ogden church is an open-country church located between Bentonia and Satartia. When Rev. Allen began his ministry at the church two years ago, the church was averaging in the mid 50's in attendance. Two years later they are running the mid 60's. The following is an excerpt of an interview with Rev. Allen concerning his church.

Keith Williams: "To what do you contribute growth of your Sunday School?"

Rev. Allen: "I can attribute the growth of our church to the responsiveness of our leadership to new ideas and to training."

Keith Williams: "How has training been a part of your growth process?"

Rev. Allen: "Training has helped our leaders see what things need to be improved to reach new people. Two years ago we brought twelve leaders to the Small Church Conference at Mississippi College. At that time that was about all the Sunday School leaders we had! They began to catch a vision of what church growth was all about. This past summer we had six of our leaders attend Gulfshore Sunday School leadership training. This too has been helpful in continuing the desire to reach people. We have also done some 'in-house' leadership training that has helped us with some specific problems in our preschool and children's areas."

Keith Williams: "Is there any other type of training which your church does?"

Rev. Allen: "We will be starting a monthly workers meeting this month. This will give us an on-going opportunity to train our leaders."

Keith Williams: "Exactly how many new units have you started?"

Rev. Allen: "We have begun two new units—an adult class and a new preschool department. We are in the process of regrouping our adult division. Through church action we will vote to begin one new adult class. I think it is important that the church is involved in this decision.

Keith Williams: "What other things can you attribute your church growth to?"

Rev. Allen: "I believe the organization of our adult classes has been particularly important. All of our adult classes now have outreach leaders and group leaders who actively contact members and prospects. Where classes had assistant teachers, those individuals have now become outreach leaders and serve in that fashion rather than teaching every other Sunday or every other month as they once did. This has strengthened our adult classes and the overall outreach of our church. Much of the success of our Sunday School can be attributed to Mrs. Maree Martin, a dedicated and capable Sunday School director. I am also excited about the adding of an additional fifteen minutes to our Bible study time. This will give us a full hour of Sunday School time beginning the first of January. We needed this time to get our work done. We weren't even touching the hem of the garment of what we need to accomplish during our Bible study time."

Keith Williams: "If you were going to give advice to churches in building a strategy for growth, what would it be?"

Rev. Allen: "To have patience. You set your course and move in that direction. It takes time, but things will finally begin to happen."

#### **BUS OUTREACH TOUR**

Monday, January 14, 1991 Olivet Baptist Church, Gulfport Tuesday, January 15 Pearson Baptist Church, Pearl

#### Discover

- · What's the Purpose of the bus
- Why is the bus ministry unique? What are the elements of the bus ministry?
- What are the actions of the bus

#### First Thanksgiving, 1619

When we think of our national holidays, one of the first that comes to mind is Thanksgiving, with the pilgrims sitting down to a groaning board. But the pilgrims weren't even at the first Thanksgiving in America. It was celebrated, on this day, November 22, at Berkeley Plantation in Virginia, a year before the pilgrims landed further up north in Massachusetts. The year of that first Thanksgiving was 1619. That is a long span of years till now, and Thanksgiving and Christmas are also a little further apart these days. But the spirit of thankfulness should be timeless and calendarless. And since this is the season of the year for timeless and calendarless sentiments, our department takes this opportunity to wish for all of you a very Happy Thanksgiving. May the holiday bring happiness and togetherness for your family and for the church where you serve.

#### A WINTER WINNER **JANUARY BIBLE STUDY 1991**

January Bible Study is an opportunity for adults, youth, children and reschoolers to participate in an enriching and in-depth Bible study beyond the Sunday morning teaching-learning experience. In addition to Bible study, January Bible Study can be a marvelous time for concentrated outreach and evangelism by Sunday School leaders and members.

#### WHAT CAN YOU DO TO PROMOTE JBS?

You can begin Promoting JBS in several ways, such as:

- Invite Sunday School members and prospects to participate
- Encourage pre-registration of members and prospects.
- Develop and Participate in planned competition between Sunday School classes or departments Display posters and materials that indicate the dates, time, place, and
- leaders of the study Make assignments to individuals to contact and pre-register their assigned class members and prospects

Finally, plan NOW to order your materials from the Baptist Book Store. Give JBS leaders the opportunity to examine the materials as well as to select and order additional materials.

#### CALENDAR OF **EVENTS**

#### DECEMBER

9 Foreign Missions Day in Sunday School

#### IANUARY

- Bus Outreach Conference Olivet Baptist Church, Gulfport, 6:45-9:15 p.m.
- Bus Outreach Conference Pearson Baptist Church, Pearl, 6:45-9:15 p.m.
- 25-26 | ASSIST Training Institute Colonial Heights Baptist Church, lackson, 5:00 p.m. on 25th -3:00 p.m. on 26th

#### FEBRUARY

- 11 Single Adult/College Tour 38th Avenue Baptist Church, Hattiesburg, 6:45-9:15 p.m.
- Start-A-Cradle Roll & Grow Tour First Baptist Church, Southaven, 6:45-9:15 p.m.
- Single Adult/College Tour Parkway Baptist Church, Jackson, 6:45-9:15 p.m.
- 12 Il & Grow Tour - First Baptist Church, Start-A-Crac Greenwood, 6:45-9:15 p.m. Single Adult/College Tour - Calvary Baptist Church, Starkville,
- 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Start-A-Cradle Roll & Grow Tour - Briarwood Baptist Church,
- Jackson, 10:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Single Adult/College Tour - First Baptist Church, Tupelo, 6:45-9:15 p.m. Start-A-Cradle Roll & Grow Tour - First Baptist Church, Hattiesburg, 14
- Getting Ready for BREAKTHROUGH: An Early Bird Conference, Broadmoor Baptist Church, Jackson, 10:00-11:45 a.m.
- BREAKTHROUGH Convention: Sunday School for the 1990's -Broadmoor Baptist Church, Jackson, Begins at 12:00 noon on the 25th and concludes at 4:15 p.m. on the 26th
  - Growth Spiral Conference Broadmoor Baptist Church, Jackson, 9:00 a.m.-4:15 p.m.

#### Dear pastors, directors of missions, and church leaders

Your State Sunday School staff would like to express their thanks to you for Final Four statistics reported to us.

59 associations submitted a report

54 associations reported enrollment of 241,315 57 associations reported attendance of 136,971 36 associations reported enrolling in the last four months, 5,366 new members

Linda Reeves Larry Salter Randy Tompkir Keith Williams

#### **OBSERVE FOREIGN MISSIONS DAY IN** THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

December 9, 1990

Make plans to observe Foreign Missions Day in your Sunday School on December 9. Pray about the best way to communicate to your church the urgent need of taking the gospel to ALL nations. These plans should not only educate your people about the needs of foreign missions, but also call them to commit themselves to pray daily for missions and to give through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

Missions, Foreign Missions

S unday

\$ chool

I nvolving ALL people who will be

0 pen to meet the

N eeds of folks from other lands by giving

S acrificially to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

#### WILLS • WILLS • WILLS

- 1: Do You Have A Will?
- 2: If So Have You Reviewed It To Make Sure It Continues To **Express Your Wishes?**
- 3: If Not, Did You Know The State Has One For You And In All Likelihood It Will Not Express Your Wishes?
- 4: Did You Know Your Mississippi Baptist Foundation Will Assist You In Preparation Of Your Will At No Expense To You If Part Of Your Estate Is Left To Benefit Southern **Baptist Causes?**

Contact Mississippi Baptist Foundation P.O. Box 530 Jackson, MS 39205 -

For Help In Making Your Will Or In Establishing A Trust To Benefit Southern Baptist Causes.



#### COLLEGIATE DISCIPLE

New material for college students in Discipleship **Training Units of study include:** 

> Crossover: Preparing for College Spending a Life (Christian values) Beautiful Originals Vs Bad Copies (Student identity) Dating-Romance-Love (Relationships) Good News Travels Fast (Students witnessing) Aids: A Christian student's response Survival Kit For New Christians

Available from Baptist Book Store

A new video tells the story of **Highland Baptist Church of** Jackson. The video is titled

"The Transitional Church — New **Opportunities for** Ministry: The Story of **Highland Baptist** Church."

Highland Pastor Cliff Shipp calls the video "sensitive, moving and very accurate. It is a story that has much to share with other churches that now are, or soon will be, going through the painful process of transition.

The video was produced by the Cooperative Missions and Broadcast Services Departments. Recommending the video, Shipp says "It will be a great help to any church that needs to discover that their life and ministry need not be over. It is my prayer that the story of this noble people will be shared with churches that need its message of hope."

The 18-minute video is available from Broadcast Services. Allow two weeks for mailing. For additional information or consultative service, contact Richard Brogan in the Cooperative Missions Department.



# Tape Service

#### New Video Tape Service Catalog **Available Now From Broadcast Services Dept.**

A new catalog listing over 700 titles of videotapes is available by writing Broadcast Services Department, P. O. Box 530, Jackson MS 39205-0530. The new listing was mailed to pastors and staff through the Pastor's Mailout in October. It is now available to other church leaders upon request.

- 1. The videotapes are made available on a free-loan basis and will be mailed to the churches, or they may be picked up at our office in the Baptist Building.
- 2. Broadcast Services needs at least a two-week notice.
- Reservations for materials should be in writing, or requests will be handled by phone if two weeks advance notice is given.
- It would be helpful to know the following information: the title and number of the videotape being requested, the date you are going to show the tape, person making request, church name and address, phone number of church, and home phone of person making request.
- 5. The user pays the return postage. A self-addressed return mailing label is included with each item mailed.
- 6. A date for return is set at checkout. Adherence to this date is very
- 7. Please request no more than two videotapes for one showing. Special requests for more than two for retreats will be considered.

Video is an outstanding training tool when used properly. Almost 70% of American homes now have VCR's. This offers a unique opportunity to churches for additional training of our people.

# Youth Evangelism Conference

Mississippi College Clinton, Mississippi

December 27-28, 1990

Theme: "De LIGHT thyse also in the LORD"

**Program Personalities:** Sheldon Gooch, Lisa Leavell, Chris & Diane Machen, Rich Malone, Phil & Russ, Rev. Jerry Pipes, Dr. Frank Pollard

\$3.00 Registration Fee

#### **PROGRAM**

- THURSDAY AFTERNOON Youth Leaders/Counselors
- Meeting Conference Room "Lights On" - Chris and Diane
- Mississippi College Welcomes
- "Lighten Up"
- Phil and Russ
- "I Saw the Light" Chris and Diane and DeLights (Drama
- MESSAGE: "Turn on the Heart Light" - Frank Pollard
- 4:00 "Lights Out"

#### THURSDAY EVENING

- Make-Up Counselors Meeting -
- Conference Room
  "Lights On" Chris and Diane 6:15
- 6:25
- Phil and Russ "This Little Light of Mine" -
- Chris and Diane and DeLights MESSAGE: Jerry Pipes
- 8:00 The DeLights

- "The Light of the World is Jesus" - Chris and Diane
- "Light Through the Darkness"
- Lisa Leavell "de Light Full" - A break
- "Let It Shine" Chris and Diane 10:00
- MESSAGE: "Go to the Light" Jerry Pipes
- **Break for Lunch** 11:00

#### **FRIDAY AFTERNOON**

- "Send the Light" Chris and 1:30 Diane
- Testimony and Song Sheldon
- Gooch 2:15 "Praise the Lord, I Saw the
- Light" Chris and Diane and DeLights
- MESSAGE: "Share the Light"
- Jerry Pipes
  Head for HOME!

"M" NIGHT, 1990

#### **DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING**

RALLY



Check with 100 Office TIME: PLACE: Check with Your

THEME: Accepting the Challenge: DiscipleAll



# Faces and places

by Anne Washburn McWilliams



Devotional

#### Home

By Horace Kerr

Someone described the home as a place where family members wait for their turn to use the family car. Another said, "What do I know of home? I was born in a hospital, spent my early days in a day-care center, attended

boarding school; and now I am a traveling saleman!" Another spoke of home as a harbor in a storm. What do you think of home? Some Biblical illustrations may be

The home is a place of orientation and reorientation, or stopping and starting again. When the disciples found Jesus' tomb empty, John tells us they went back to their own homes (John 20:10). They had left home to follow him. Now without him they returned home to determine what they should do next.

The home is a place of integrity. The Mosaic Law describes it as such with regard to weights and measures (Deuteronomy 25:14). We should find it so in relationships.

It is here we can be totally ourselves, open and honest with one another.

Loved ones are cared for in the home. We find it in Peter's home when his mother-in-law was ill. I Timothy 5:4 tells us that we are to show our religion by the care of our parents.

The home is a place of entertaining others. When we really want to show our appreciation for someone, we invite them to our homes rather than taking them to a country or restaurant. This was ture of King Jeroboam as he tried to woo the favor of the man of God (I Kings 13:7).

The home is also a place of celebration. In the parables of the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the lost son we have such an example (Luke 15). Victories and accomplishments seem hollow without significant opportunity to celebrate with those who are meaningful to us. The home is the proper setting for such an occasion.

Ask God to help you make your home like these. Kerr lives in Jackson. Before retirement he was supervisor, senior adults/singles, Family Ministry Department, BSSB.

# On celebrating Thanksgiving

How will you celebrate Thanksgiving this year? If you made a list of your plans, what would be on the list? Grocery shopping? Cooking turkey and dressing, and a whole tableload more? Eating — and eating — and eating? Entertaining relatives? Or driving a thousand miles or more to visit relatives, or to go sightseeing? Going to church? Or skipping church to drive home early, so you can beat the Sunday afternoon end-of-holiday rush? Going to a football game? Watching football on television? Taking naps on the couch? Going Christmas shopping? Now review your list. How much thanksgiving is sandwiched in?

Long ago and far away I was a sixth grader at a little country school called Ridge Grove. When Thanksgiving time neared, some of us there dressed as Pilgrims. All of us sang "Swing the shining sickle, cut the ripened grain, Flash it in the sunlight, swing it once again . . . . Gathered is the harvest for another year. Now our day of gladness — Thanksgiving Day is here." One boy dressed as Governor William Bradford in 1623, read the governor's proclamation:

When Keith and Maureen Allen entered China last fall to teach

English, they were given three can-

nots: "You cannot do mission work."

"You cannot enlist believers." "You cannot interfere with a Chinese

Under sponsorship of Christian Services International, of the Foreign Mission Board, SBC, they arrived in

Yantai in September, 1989, to teach English as a Second Language at the

University of Yantai for two semesters. Now they are back home

Inasmuch as the great Father has given us this year an abundant harvest of Indian corn, wheat, beans, squashes, and garden vegetables, and has made the forests to abound with game and the sea with fish and clams, and inasmuch as He has protected us from the ravages of the savages, has spared us from pestilence and disease, has granted us freedom to worship God according to the dictates of our own conscience; now, I, your magistrate, do proclaim that all ye Pilgrims, with your wives and little ones, do gather at ye meeting house, on ye hill, between the hours of 9 and 12 in the day time, on Thursday, November ye 29th of the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred and twenty-three, and the third year since ye Pilgrims landed on ye Pilgrim Rock, there to listen to ye pastor, and render thanksgiving to ye Almighty God for all His blessings.

proclamation and I can't find any football games or television or Christmas shopping or visiting relatives or driv-ing on the freeway. I find that Brad-ford did say something like this: "In-asmuch as the great Father has given us so much abundance . . . let's get together at the meeting house and give thanks to Almighty God for all

His blessings."
Right now, I think I'll re-write my

I have searched and searched that fourth chapter of Philippians. I've memorized some of its verses, among them verses 6 and 7.

Yet I never until now realized that those verses say that the peace that passeth understanding comes as a result of thanksgiving! "In every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanlist. How about you? ding, shall keep your hearts and many, many times I have read the minds through Christ Jesus."

# Allens look back toward China

By Anne W. McWilliams

English conversation.

gave American names to my students to help me remember them!" Maureen recalled. In one of at least 50 letters written this summer from Chinese students to the Allens, 'Eva" confided that she had changed her name to "Maria" because her friends had told her "Eva" sounded too much like "evil."

Concerning witnessing, the Allens had to remember the three "cannots" mentioned above. If the students initiated questions about the Bible or religion, they were free to answer. At the students' request, they could give them Bibles. "We had to prove ourselves with the students," Keith said. "We built a mutual trust. Then

although many could not carry on an in the privacy of our apartment, one to one, they would open up to us and ask questions."

As Keith and Maureen first introduced themselves in the classrooms, they told the students they were Christians. Recently Keith said, "Students watching our lifestyle knew they would find us in church on Sundays." They attended the Yantai Christian Church, non-denomina-tional, as are Christian churches there. One young man at church introduced himself to Keith and said, "I came to church to meet a foreigner

and to improve my English."

Riding one October day with a group of Chinese people, the couple asked to be let out of the van when (See ALLENS on page 9)



Maureen and Keith Allen look at a photo album containing pictures of their year of teaching in China.

# Letters to the editor

Letters to the editor must be limited to 300 words and the editor reserves the right to trim those that are longer. Editorial prerogatives must be reserved under all circumstances, and the opinions of the letter writers do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff of the Baptist Record. Only signed letters will be used, but the writer may request that his name be withheld. The withholding of names will be at the discretion of the editor.

#### Thanks from Peru

In September a group of ladies from the Mississippi WMU visited our town, and we were thrilled by their visit. Their obvious interest in missions and our work in particular was very encouraging. Of course, we have always felt the closeness of our SBC to missions activity; but anytime a group from the SBC comes to visit, that closeness becomes all the more apparent. Through such visits we are reminded of our Baptist friends and family in Christ. Thank you, Mississippi WMU, for making that visit to Peru possible.

With the Lottie Moon Offering coming up shortly, I would like to take this are being well spent and that your prayers are being answered here in Peru. Southern Baptists have made available to our mission monies with which to fund a large hunger-relief effort. People all over Peru are coming to know our Lord as Savior because of the concern that the SBC people demonstrate through hunger relief. Please be reminded of these things at Lottie Moon Christmas Offering time.

**Bob Williford** Junta de la Mision Extranjera de la convencion de Bautistas del Sur Apartado 544 Chiclayo, Peru SA and the same of th

#### In appreciation of home missionaries

This summer I attended Home Missions weeks at Glorieta. It was an unforgettable, enriching experience. I praise God for the outstanding program put together by Dr. Larry Lewis and his staff from the Home Mission Board.

As fine as the program was the outstanding thing that blessed me most was getting to personally meet many of our home missionaries. I am fully convinced that these Soldiers of the Cross are the all but forgotten heroes of the Southern Baptist Convention. Never have I seen and felt such a spirit of dedication and devotion as I walked among these giants for Jesus. Few of us realize the portunity to say that Baptist monies tremendous sacrifice these servants pay in order to spread the gospel. Most must work a full-time job because their churches are so small and cannot begin to financially support a pastor and his family. Most have just the bare necessities of life; and, yet I heard not one complaint all week. I met one elderly couple who had to paint a barn in order to have the money to attend the conference.
It is so good to know that each week

as I give through my church a small part of what I give goes to help support our wonderful home missionaries.

John McKay Evangelistic Association, Inc. Ft. Worth, Texas

teaching English again to several Chinese-speaking persons in Early in 1989, they read in the Baptist Record of the need for English teachers in China. "You don't have to be a professional English teacher for this kind of project," said Keith. "Anyone can go who is willing to go." Before retirement, he had been an in-dustrial engineer; and she had been financial secretary at First Church, Greenville.

"What do you like best about China?" the students there would ask them, and Maureen would answer, tai — population 400,000 — lived fewer than 20 Americans. "People there called us the 'foreign experts,' " laughed the Allens. At the university, 2,400 students were enrolled, with 330 teachers (seven furnished by CSI).

Maureen taught Speaking, Writing,
and Extensive Reading to 75 first-year English majors, some in more than one class. Keith taught American Culture, Business Letter Writing, Economic Trade in English, Conversation and Reading, to 200 fourth-year

Most of their students had studied English for at least five years before entering university; therefore, nearly all of them could read English,

# Names in the news



Iva Mae Thornhill, left, and Loretta Hall, right, were honored by Moak's Creek Church, Summit (Lincoln), for 45 years and 25 years of service to the music ministry. The piano and organ accompanists were presented plaques, flowers, and a reception Sept. 30.

"Eugene Tennison Appreciation ay" was hosted by Tishomingo Church, Tishomingo County, Oct. 14,

under the leadership of Terry Ledbetter, pastor. The church family, visitors, and friends from several surrounding states assembled at 10:30 a.m. for this tri-bute of love and honor for their minister of music and former pastor,

Tennison **Eugene Tennison** 

Charles Stubblefield, director of nissions, made the presentation of a plaque in behalf of the church family. Ledbetter made the presentation of a "Picture Album of Memories" along with a wrist watch. Cladron Parker and Chester Dawson, deacons, unveiled a marble stone as Ledbetter read the inscription, "Eugene Tennison Education Building, 1988." The \$160,000 educational building will be paid off in November.

Ralph Culp, son of Monroe and Maxine Culp of the congregation, and pastor of East Corinth Church brought the first message entitled "The Man of God" from II Kings 2:6. Eddie Hamilton, president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention and pastor of Oak Forest Church, Jackson, brought the second message. His scripture was taken from Mark 1:1-8, and highlighted a man of distinction, example, dedication, faithfulness, and a love for others. Hamilton is the son of Laskel and Imogene Hamilton, along with Jack and Edna Earl Pen-

nington, parents of his wife, Dorothy. Special music was rendered by former youth director, Lou Ann Ford, now minister of music at First Church, Booneville; Dan and Sue Haygood, Magnolia, Ark., former minister of music and pianist; and Sandra Howie and Brenda Webb, Tishomingo Church. The choir and congregation honored Tennison with his favorite hymns.

A fellowship dinner followed the

West McComb Church, Pike Association, held deacon ordination on Nov. 4. Ordained were Robert E. "Bob" Johnson and Tommy A. May. The guest speaker was David Millican, pastor of South McComb Church. A reception was held following the service.

Belton, Texas - Trustees at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor have announced that Jerry G. Bawcom will become the 21st president of the university. He will join UMHB on February 1, 1991 as president-elect and assume the position of president and chief executive officer on Aug. 1, 1991. Bawcom has occupied the president's office at Texas Wesleyan University in Fort Worth since May 1984.

Thomas Edward Temple was ordained Oct. 21 by his home church, Poplar Springs Drive Church, Meri-

dian. The pastor is James Ruffin.

Temple received the master of religious education degree from South-Seminary. While in seminary he served as youth director for Gilead Church, Glendale, Ky., and as chap-lain for the Hill-

creek Nursing Home, Louisville, Ky. He presently serves as minister of education, youth and activities, First Church, Eatonton, Ga.

Temple



Dwayne C. Doyle a junior at Mississippi College and minister of youth at Center Terrace Church in Canton, was ordained to the gospel ministry by Puckett Church, Puckett, on Oct. 28. His father, Alvin C. Doyle, pastor, is pictured presenting him with a certificate of ordination.

Tony Moore, a native of Coffeeville, will perform in senior recital on Nov. 26, at 3 p.m. in Aven Auditorium on the Mississippi College campus. Moore, a baritone, is a student of Richard Joiner, associate professor and head of the Department of Music. His recital will be in part of completion of the bachelor of church music degree. Admission is free and the public is

#### Revival dates

Longview Church (Oktibbeha): Nov. 18-21; Sunday services, 11 a.m. 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; covered dish lunch; Charlie Ransier, evangelist; Jim Simpson, minister of music; James Hutcherson, pastor.

#### Revival results

Oral Church, Sumrall (Lamar): Oct. 21-24; Ron Jordan, Doug Benedict, Jerry Rawls, Dale Saucier, and Glenn Davis, preachers; Dallas Rayborn, Hattiesburg, music; 3 professions of faith; B. J. Barnett, pastor.

## Mississippians receive Owen Cooper Award for voluntarism

MEMPHIS — Two Mississippians were among nine Southern Baptists recognized at the Triennial Meeting of the National Fellowship of Baptist Men with the Owen Cooper Award.

Named after the late Mississippi layman who served as president of the Southern Baptist Convention, the award is given to those who distinguish themselves in Southern Baptist missions projects as volunteers.

Hal Buchanan, Tupelo, was recognized by the National Fellowship of Baptist Educators for his work with Book-Link which sends donated Christian books all over the world. Buchanan and his wife, Dot, operate the ministry from their home.

Buchanan is the former dean of education and director of teacher training at Delta State University in enlistment in volunteer missions.

Mississippi.

The Owen Cooper Award was given osthumously to J. T. Gilbert by the National Fellowship of Baptist Men's Lay Renewal Fellowship. For 12 years, Gilbert served as a Lay Renewal Weekend coordinator. In

addition, he participated in home and foreign missions projects and left a legacy of marketplace ministry in physical therapy and home-health care. He died last May. His wife, Nan, resides in Tupelo.

Norman Wiggins, Campbell University president, Buies Creek, N.C., and outgoing NFBM president, presented the awards.

NFBM is a ministry of the adult division of the Brotherhood Commission. It organizes lay people according to skills, interests, and vocation for

# Staff changes

Warren Brattlof is the new minister of education and administration, Oakhurst Church, Clarksdale. He goes to Oakhurst from



Brattlof

**Memorial Church** in Pasadena, Texas. A native of Texas, Warren is a graduate of Rice University, and Southwestern Seminary, where he received a master of religious education degree.

Warren has served on the faculty of Glorieta Conference Center and also has worked in Sunday School Enlargement Campaigns in Los Angeles, Calif.; Seattle, Wash.; Spokane, Wash.; and Louisville, Ky.

Jim Lindsey is the new pastor of the Darling Church, North Delta Association.

Ben W. Blackwell, recently resigned his position as minister of music and youth at Rocky Creek Church, Lucedale. He will become chaplain of the Seamen's Service and part-time minister of youth at Suburban Church, in New Orleans.

Robin M. Brumfield, formerly of Hopewell Church, Lake (Scott County), has been called by New Liberty Church, Rt. 2, Lena (Scott County), as interim pastor. He has accepted the call as of Nov. 4.

#### **Castlewoods Church** triples numbers

Castlewoods Church, Brandon, celebrated the beginning of the 1990-91 church year with a 291 percent increase of people (129 Oct. 28 as opposed to only 33 people on the same Sunday one year ago) attending 9:45 a m day one year ago) attending 9:45 a.m. small group Bible studies. This number closely approximated, and in some instances equals, the number of those participating in the 11 a.m. worship hour. "The proximity of these numbers reflects the very focus of our church as we strive to build a warm fellowship centered around the Bible with a vision for the future," says

Larry McDonald, pastor.

A vision for the future at
Castlewoods Church includes a building program already underway as well as a youth seminar recently hosted in an effort to springboard an innovative program to reach area

Tommy Lister has been called as youth and activities director, Oakhurst Church, Clarksdale. Lister is a native of Belzoni.

He is a graduate of Mississippi College and South-

western Seminary, with a master of religious education. He has served as youth director, First Church, Greenville, and minister of youth at First Church,

Crystal Springs. He goes to Oakhurst from Fort Worth, Texas, where he served as recreation director, First Church, Grand Prairie.

Lister

Crossview Church in Rankin County has called Matt Buckles as pastor, effective Nov. 4. He is a graduate of Mississippi College and received his doctor of ministry degree at New Orleans Seminary. Buckles is parttime consultant with the Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. His previous place of service was Lowrey Memorial Church in Blue Mountain.

Ken Massey has resigned First Church, Marks, to become pastor of Calvary Church, Waco, Texas.

#### Homecomings

Rena Lara Church (North Delta): Nov. 18; Harvest Day; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; preaching, 11 a.m.; lunch in fellowship hall, noon; concert by Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Truell, First Church, Tunica, 1 p.m.; Billy J. Beckett, pastor, Shiloh Church, Corinth, and former pastor of Rena Lara Church, 1965-1970; John Purvis,

#### CLASSIFIED

No blind ads.

CHURCH PEW CUSHIONS: Manufactured in our plant. For free estimate contact — Emmons Brothers, P. O. Box 186, Meridian, Miss. 39301. Since 1899. Phone (601) 693-4451.

#### Senior adult corner

Eighteen senior adults and Bob Sanderson, pastor of Springfield Church, Scott County, recently toured the International Checker Hall of Fame in Petal. Following lunch the group had a guided tour of William Carey College. The tour guide also provided a short concert. Gertrude Piere is chairman of senior adult

#### SHATTERPROOF AT LAST!

#### Krinklglas®

... Saves money ..Radiates beauty .Stops breakage



Economical, attractive stained glass alternative for church windows, doors... traditional & modern colors & patterns of your choice. Ask about our new pastels!

Call your distributor/dealer, or contact: DIMENSIONAL PLASTICS CORP. 1065 E. 26th Street, Hialeah, FL 33013

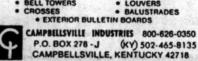
-800-833-2888 or 305/691-5961 Solid 25 year reputation!

Confused About Life Insurance? Why not buy the most life insurance for the least amount of money? Example: Male, 65, non-smoker \$100,000

For only \$55.62 per mo. Call Don Mahaffey

9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET Mon.-Fri. Toll Free 1-800-367-5492 ALWAYS compare before you buy.

• STEEPLES • CUPOLAS • BELL TOWERS • CROSSES



CHURCH FURNITURE Quality and Low Prices Oak — Pine — Veneer Wallace Foy

171 Westover Dr. Clarksdale, MS 38614 1-800-898-0551



#### **New Orleans Baptist** Theological Seminary



#### Off-Campus Classes Mississippi College Campus

Clinton, MS Master of Divinity classes: "Intro. to the Old Testament" "Introduction to Christian Proclamation" Mondays, 1 & 6 p.m.

Clarke College Campus

Newton, MS Associate of Divinity classes: Mondays & Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m.

> Apply now for January 21 classes.

Call or write:

Director of Admissions, N.O.B.T.S. 3939 Gentilly Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70126 (504) 282-4455, ext. 3304

Mississippi Rep.: Carl Hudson P.O. Box 13862, Jackson, MS 39236 Phone: (601) 956-5347



"God's Beautiful Bouquet" was the theme for the GA and Acteen coronation/recognition service held at Cedar Grove Church in Columbia.

Top picture, GAs, left to right, are Wendy Bourne, Ashley Stephens, Jeni Beard, Kayla Breland, Amanda Vasilion, Sarah Watts, Avery Brumfield, Linda Norton, Joni

Bottom picture, left to right, are Queen, Julie Stephens; Queen Regent, Rebecca Arthur; Queen Regent, Amy Jones; Queen, Leigh Broome; and Queen, Melissa

Copiah Association is the second to make application for recognition for associational family ministry programming.

Lloyd Wilson, Georgetown, associational family ministry director, and Talmadge E. Smith, Lincoln-Copiah associations, have signed the application indicating that the association has completed 15 of the 24 responses has completed 15 of the 24 requirements toward the recognition of achievement for this current year, according to J. Clark Hensley, family ministry contract consultant, Discipleship Training Department,

Center Ridge Church, Yazoo City (Yazoo), will hold its annual Harvest Supper, Nov. 18, 6 p.m., in the church fellowship hall. Members and guests are invited to bring a covered dish. Bryan Abel is pastor; Stephen Bath is minister of music and youth.

"Old-Fashioned Day" will be held at Second Church, Kosciusko, Nov. 18. A Thanksgiving meal will follow the morning service. Activities will immediately follow the meal. James D. Dodds is pastor.

Straight Bayou Church near Anguilla celebrated Harvest Day on Nov. 4. Archie Goodwin, former pastor at Straight Bayou, now pastor in Transylvania, La., preached. John and Lisa McDaniel, music evangelists, Memphis, presented a mini-concert. Dinner was served at the church. On the first Sunday of each November, this church celebrates the close of the harvest season, with this special day of thanksgiving to God. They decorate the church lawn with pumpkins, cotton, cornstalks, and other fruits of the harvest season. Brad Banks is pastor.

Leake County Baptist Association Brotherhood and WMU spensored a booth at the Octoberfest in Carthage. They distributed 700 "Jesus Loves Me" balloons and over 2800 gospel tracts. They also did face-painting and had opportunities to witness to many people. Michael Weeks is director of missions.

So much to do; so little done. -Cecil Rhodes — Last Words

#### **ALLENS**

From page 7

they passed the church. One girl, a student, asked, "Can anybody go to church who wants to go?" and they told her yes, so she went with them. Later in the year, she saw a film on the life of Jesus, which they showed in class. The film, in English, had been placed in the university's library in 1987 by other American teachers. After the girl who had gone to church saw the film, she began to ask more and more questions about Christianity. Then in January, she said she was ready to accept Jesus as her Savior.
All year, the Allens prayed

specifically for students, that if they were considering placing their faith in Christ, they would make definite decisions before the Allens left on June 16. This happened. In the first two weeks of June several students made professions of faith.

Would the Allens be willing to return to China? Yes, — but if they do, they would like to go to a warmer city! "We are both cold-natured," he said. Yan-

tai is in Shandong Province, about 500 miles north of Shanghai. Their rooms on second floor of a faculty apartment building were heated only December through February. "No matter if it sleets in other months, there will be no heat!" With added help of a small electric heater, they warmed their bedroom to 57 degrees, but the other rooms stayed colder than that.

Their 4 × 4 bathroom had hot water available only for the shower. While the Allens could shower twice a week, students could bathe only twice a month, and were provided water only three hours a day. At first, Maureen cooked on a two-burner stove, but in

December obtained a tiny oven.
The Allens' duties included production of radio specials, in English, for the university at Thanksgiving and Christmas. These could be heard within a 50-mile radius of the school. Also they wrote and directed a Christmas play, which 400 students came to see.

Now that another Christmas is approaching, the Allens look at their tapestry of the Great Wall, and their thoughts turn backward to Yantai.

# Robert L. Nations,

Robert L. Nations, 63, of 103 Greenway Court, Jackson, a minister of music, died of sudden death syndrome Nov. 5 at Hinds General Hospital.

Services were held Nov. 8 at Baldwin-Lee Funeral Home.

Nations, a Hazlehurst native, had lived in Jackson for 14 years after moving from Pascagoula. He served as minister of music in churches in Mississippi, Louisiana, and Florida. He also led evangelistic music a number of years throughout the South.

He had taught piano and voice and had recorded many religious songs. He also opened and managed a number of Christian radio stations throughout Mississippi. He was a member of First Baptist Church of

Survivors include: wife, Monette; sons, Bob Nations Jr. of Arkadelphia, Ark., and Scott Nations of Birmingham; daughters, Myra Virginia Clark of Baltimore; and Anita Sue Routh of Jackson; one sister; and 10 grandchildren.

#### **James Frost** dies in Florida

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (BP) — James E. Frost, whose Sunday School and Discipleship Training posts took him to the staffs of three state conven-tions and the Sunday School Board, died of a massive heart attack at his Jacksonville Beach Fla., home Oct. 27. He was 72.

Frost directed the Sunday School department of the Florida Baptist Convention from 1970 until his retirement in 1983. Prior to that, he was secretary of the Sunday School department of the Baptist General Convention of Texas (1968-1970); supervisor of the general administration unit of the SSB Training Union (now Discipleship Training) department (1964-1968); and director of the Training Union department of the Southern Baptist General Convention California (1956-1964).

Although retired, Frost was active still in Florida Baptist life. At the time of his death, he was preparing to leave for a Sunday School training conference at the Hardeetown Church in Chiefland, Fla.

#### **CROSSOVER**

From page 3

"Then I realized there are still many people to be reached in that area. "This could be a wonderful oppor-

tunity for all Southern Baptists to work together as well as to see countless lives changed," he said. This is an opportunity for us to work together in evangelism - an area we all say is important to us."

Crossover Atlanta will team churches from across the nation with Atlanta-area churches for three days of personal evangelism.

Chapman and Sunderland have set a goal of enlisting at least 200 partnership churches in Atlanta. There are 422 Southern Baptist churches in the seven associations of metropolitan Atlanta.

Crossover, Indianapolis facilitator Cloyd Sullins is seeking teams of adult witnesses to work one-week terms in

June, July, or August of 1991. Inquiries about Crossover Atlanta or Crossover Indianapolis should be addressed to Bobby Sunderland, Home Mission Board, 1350 Spring St. NW, Atlanta, Ga. 30367-5601. Telephone calls should be directed to (404) 898-7687.

Wingfield writes for HMB

## minister of music, dies MC will host English teaching workshop in China

Next summer, June 27-Aug. 5, Mississippi College will host an oral language workshop at Jiangnan University in Wuxi, China. Georgetown College in Georgetown, Ky., will also be a part of this crosscultural endeavor.

George Pittman, professor of English at Mississippi College, will lead the group of six English teachers from Mississippi to China in the summer of 1991. Pittman taught English in China last summer as part of a team sponsored by Cooperative Services International, Foreign Mission Board, SBC. The cost of the five-week stay in China will be approximately

China which has one-fourth of the world's population, is now open to Christian English teachers. Though the China government will not allow the Foreign Mission Board to send any. types of missionaries to China, they are eager for English teachers to come and teach there.

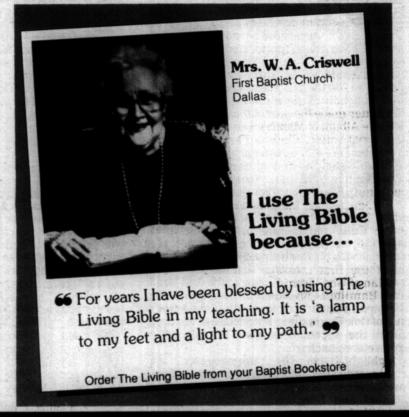
Pittman said that he found the

Chinese students very receptive to Americans, and eager and dedicated learners. "The door into China is now open. Who know when this may again suddenly change?" he said.

In conjunction with this new pro-

gram, Mississippi College is offering a new English course — English 459 "Teaching English As A Second Language. This course will be offered spring semester at 6 p.m. on Monday nights. The teacher will be Chris Kamerschen, who holds a master's degree in TESL from Georgia State University. All participants in the China workshop will take this course in preparation for their teaching at Jiangnan University. Also the course is open to everyone who is interested in teaching English as a second

Anyone interested in participating, in this new program should contact Pittman at Box 4227, Mississippi College, Clinton, MS 39058, as soon as



#### MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT

- PAYS 100% PART A DEDUCTIBLE
- PAYS 100% PART B DEDUCTIBLE
- PAYS 100% ACTUAL CHARGES NOT PAID BY MEDICARE PART B
- NO WAITING PERIOD FOR PREEXISTING CONDITIONS

**AGES 65-69** \$65.15 Monthly

70-74 \$73.78 75 & Over \$81.80



Serving Mississippians For Over A Quarter Of A Century

948-5042 - 1-800-844-3254

	I understand there is no cost or obligation.				
Name _		246 20			
Address_		BB B999-0130			

City\_ L. D. O'MIRE AGENCY Phone 770 N. State, Jackson, MS 3920

Please send me additional information.

# Jeremiah finds courage to continue

By Bob Rogers Jeremiah 36:4-8, 27-31

William Carey, pioneer Baptist missionary to India, 1793-1834, went seven years without a convert. Three attempts were made on his life. A



fire killed five co-workers at his mission. His printing house and translations of the Bible on which he had been working were all destroyed. Yet the theme of his ministry was, "Expect great things from God; attempt great things for God," and through his ministry Christianity gained a growing foothold in India. Jeremiah

opposition in this Sunday's lesson, Jeremiah 36:4-8, 27-31; and he, too, found the courage to continue serving the Lord.

In 605 B.C. Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon crushed the army of Egypt at Carchemish and began advancing south toward Palestine. About this time, God ordered Jeremiah to dictate to Baruch the scribe "all the words of the Lord

#### UNIFORM

(possibly a collection of his prophecies over the. previous 20 years) . . . upon a roll of a book" (vs. 4). The reason for this writing, Jeremiah explained, was that he was "shut up; I cannot go into the house of the Lord" (vs. 5). Jeremiah was not in prison, because he was later able to go into hiding (vss. 19, 26); but he was forbidden to go into the temple, probably because of his temple sermon which we studied last week (Jeremiah 26). Therefore, he needed Baruch to enter the temple and read his message.

Writing down Jeremiah's oracles was no simple task. Baruch wrote on a scroll made of strips of papyrus, a reed grown in Egypt. His pen was a reed brush, dipped in a black ink made of carbon soot and mixed with gum. He wrote in vertical columns, unrolling the papyrus as he went. It took many months to write the prophecies, because they began in King Jehoiakim's fourth year (vs. 1), and did not finish until the ninth month of the fifth year

When Baruch read the message of judgment in the temple, the officials were so concerned by it that they read it to the king. How discouraging it must have been for Baruch and Jeremiah when the king cut off sections on the prophecy as it was read, and threw them into his fireplace (vss. 22-23)!

Any Christian who has courageously stood for Christ, only to see his or her witness rejected, scorned, and ignored, can identify with the frustration of Baruch and Jeremiah when the king burned the scroll. We want to wallow in self-pity and ask the Lord, "What's the use?" That is when the Lord reminds us whom we are serving, and that we will triumph in the end.

We are to get up and go again.

The Lord told Jeremiah, "Take thee again another roll, and write in it all the former words that were in the first roll, which Jehoiakim the king of Judah hath burned" (vs. 28). Jehoiakim had not wanted to hear Jeremiah's words that "the king of Babylon shall certainly come and destroy this land" (vs. 29). James Leo Green said, "He made the fundamental mistake of thinking that the penknife is more powerful than the pen and that the word of God can be negated by the act of man." In the same month that Jehoiakim was burning the scroll (December, 604 B.C.), Babylon was capturing the Philistine city of Ashkelon, some 40 miles west of Jerusalem on the Mediterranean coast. The dynasty of David was to come to an end in 587 B.C., when Babylon would destroy Jerusalem, just as Jeremiah had warned (vss.

Jehoiakim did not stop Jeremiah's ministry. Jeremiah dictated another scroll to Baruch, repeating his prophecies, "and there were added besides unto them many like words" (vs. 32). Even when the days seem dark, we can have the courage to continue serving the Lord, because he is the Light at the end of the tunnel.

Questions to consider:

1. What setbacks have you suffered in serving Christ? Did you let them stop you?
2. Name three activities which require

courage for a Christian to do. Will you undertake to do one this week?

Rogers is pastor, Calvary Church, Gloster.

# Responding to the Son — yesterday and today

By Jim Smith John 2:1-25

How do people respond to Jesus? Each time Jesus taught, each time he walked through a village, each time he performed a miracle, peo-



Smith

ple responded to Jesus in different ways. They chose to either accept or reject him and his ministry on the basis of these encounters. It is the same today. Each time a person hears a testimony or the Word of God preached, he must make a decision to either accept or reject the message of Jesus Christ.

The first miracle performed by Jesus is recorded in today's scripture passage. The occasion was a wedding feast at Cana. Jesus, his mother, and his disciples were all present. Upon realizing that the host was out of wine, Mary came to Jesus and asked him to do something about the embarrassing situation. It appears from her request that she knew of his powers beyond her knowledge of his being God's Son although we have no "record" of

previous miracles.

Jesus took the opportunity and "... manifested forth his glory." Jesus always had a purpose for each miracle he performed.

LIFE AND WORK

He was selective in his actions and did not give "signs" on the demands of most people, especially religious bigots. The result of the miracle was "... his disciples believed on him." They responded by believing in his person, his authority, and his purpose. They were strengthened in their faith as we may be strengthened in our faith when we trust in

People have debated over the years the nature of Jesus' anger displayed in the cleansing of the temple. There can be no doubt from verses 15-17 that Jesus was angry about the situation he found in the temple (Court of the Gentiles). His sense of "righteous indignation" was pricked into action. Just as the Old Testament records that the wrath of God was raised against the unrighteous actions of the children of Israel, so this unrighteous actions of the children of Israel, so this unrighteous action in the name of "religion" also upset Jesus. I believe our unrighteous actions still "upset" God today; I know they "grieve" the Holy Spirit.

We need to understand that unblemished animals were precised for accrificated.

animals were required for sacrifices and special Jewish coins were all that were considered acceptable for the temple tax use. If the priest did not approve your animal for sacrifice, you had no choice but to find (buy) another and what more convenient place than the outside court of the temple. The temple tax also must be paid in Jewish coins, for which all foreign currency and Roman currency must be exchanged as the Jewish coins were not in circulation anywhere but the temple. Such a system could easily lend itself to corruption and "kickbacks" not only in the temple area, but among the temple personnel and even the priests of

The temple was dedicated to God as a holy place, one for worship and purity. Jesus was shocked into action. Fashioning a whip he drove those responsible for the misuse of the house of God from the temple. This holy zeal of Jesus was like that expressed by David in Psalm 69:9 and also quoted in verse 17.

While people are often leery of a religious zealot, I believe the time has come in America that the "holy zeal" of Christians must be ap-plied to the unrighteousness consuming not only our secular society but also the religious community. Out of righteous indignation Christians must respond, not with violence, but with strength to protect those truths, morals, and values that our churches and our nation were founded upon. Jesus did so and thereby declared his authority as the Son of God. We must do so today and declare Jesus to the While his disciples were once again strengthened in their belief, the temple leaders responded with skepticism and criticism of Jesus. When they asked for a sign of his authority and Jesus spoke of raising his body up in three days, they thought he spoke of Herod's temple, which took 46 years plus to build. They scoffed at his testimony, refusing to believe, as do many today.

At his death the apostles remembered his words and responded again in belief and acceptance. The temple authorities also remembered his words; they responded in fear and posted guards to attempt to prevent that which they did not have the ability to understand or the power to prevent.

Many people saw and heard of Jesus' actions in the temple. The crowds saw the miracles of Jesus and believed in his name, in his reputation. Their response was superficial because they were impressed by his signs and not by his person, his power, or his purpose. Jesus saw their lack of commitment and refused to commit himself to them. Jesus understands and knows our hearts, our motives, and our depth of commitment. In order to be what Jesus wants us to be, we must accept him complete-ly and commit ourselves totally to him. Nothing

Smith is pastor, Mt. Gilead Church, Meridian.

# Jesus offers forgiveness to everyone who asks

By Lannie Wilbourn Luke 7:37-50

Alexander Pope said, "To err is human, to forgive divine." In a dramatic way, Jesus showed forgiveness so the religious folks could see



Wilbourn

how it worked. Every person needs forgiveness and Jesus offers to forgive everyone who asks. Bishop Fulton J. Sheen said, "The really un-forgivable sin is the denial of sin; because, by its nature, there is now nothing to be forgiven." The Apostle Paul wrote that "all have sinned." To say we do not need forgiveness is to deny the Word of God!

Jesus accepted a dinner invitation from a Pharisee named Simon. Luke told us in Chapter 5 that the Pharisees and teachers of the law complained that he went to a party at Levi's house with tax-collectors and sinners. Jesus was a popular participant in social functions. He excluded no one but went where people gathered in groups. Party givers had guest lists but the door was open for others to come in also. The "sinful woman" was not on the list. But the Pharisee did not resist the custom by barring the door to her. Simon may have been in the group outside Levi's house on the night of his

**BIBLE BOOK** 

party. He would not have gone into that party. But he would stand outside and complain that Jesus was inside at the party of a tax collector.

The sinful woman was not identified as a prostitute but many believe she was one. Jesus and the other guests were reclining on low couches around the dinner table. They were propped up on their left elbows with their bodies angled away from the table. This made it possible for woman to approach Jesus fr without causing any commotion. Her purpose was to anoint his feet with the expensive perfume she brought with her. It was in a container with a long neck that had to be broken to pour the perfume. As she got near Jesus she began to weep. The tears flowed in such volume that his feet got wet. She then unpinned her long hair to use as a towel. This woman's actions speak louder than any words the Pharisee may have used to recognize the true greatness of Jesus. She risked embarrassment by entering the house of a Pharisee. She broke custom by letting down her hair in public. She expressed deep sorrow with her tears. As she got into Jesus' presence her sinfulness overwhelmed her. She knew about Jesus or she would not have done any of these things. But once she got into his presence, he was more than she had expected. The personal risks she took resulted in forgiveness.

Simon reveals his presuppositions about his guest as he muttered under his breath (vs. 39). He was looking for ways to discredit Jesus. But the tables were turned as Jesus told him about the woman and about himself. The point of the parable in verses 41-43 is that neither of the debtors could repay the moneylender. A denarius was a day's wage. The man who ow-

ed the most had greater reason to love more. But neither man could pay his debt. With the parable, Jesus pointed to the woman's extravagant gift as evidence of her love. Simon had expressed no real love, only self-serving curiosity, by his dinner invitation. The sinful woman did all the customs of hospitality though she was an uninvited guest. The church must never become a cult of self-righteous sinners whose sin is hidden behind a guise of religion. The church must be a community characterized by its uncommon love for Jesus and each

other. As a community of forgiven sinners we

'are ready and willing to receive others in need of forgiveness for sins different from ours.

Jesus demonstrated uncommon courage by rebuking his host. Before all the guests he pointed out the deficiencies of Simon's hospitali-ty. Then he pointed out the failure of the Pharisees' religion with the question, "Do you see this woman?" The Pharisees made a practice of not seeing her "kind." Jesus pointed out her love as a worthy example. He forgave her of her sins. With this statement (vs.48) Jesus further inflamed the controversy with the Pharisees. But, he opened the door of forgiveness to all. Frances Ridley Havergal in Ridley Haver lines from "Nothing to Pay!" expresses it very well, "Nothing to pay! yes, nothing to pay!/Jesus has cleared all the debt away,/ Blotted it out with his bleeding hand!/ Free and forgiven and loved you stand./ Hear the voice of Jesus say,/ Verily thou has nothing to pay!/ Paid is the debt, and the debtor free!/ Now I ask thee, Lovest thou me?"

Wilbourn is pastor, Pinelake Church, Brandon.

#### Mississippi Baptist activities

Nov. 18-21 Foreign Mission Study (WMU Emphasis) Thanksgiving Day

### THE VILLAGE VIEW

Baptist Children's Village Ronny E. Robinson, Executive Director

P. O. Box 27, Clinton, MS 39060-0027 (601) 922-2242



Mr. Bob Dickey

Jr.

Mr. Bill Diggs

Illene Dillard

Morris Dillon

Oren E. Dozier

Mrs. Katie T. Dulin

Mrs. Dot Edwards

Douglas M. Ellis

Mr. Charles Ely

Mr. & Mrs. Richard B. Fain

Mrs. Margaret S. Tomlinson

Mr. & Mrs. Redney Bevill

Sr. Adult SS, Siloam BC

Mr. & Mrs. Aubrey Lee Boone

**Arlington Heights BC** 

Mrs. B. F. Townsend

Mrs. Phyllis T. Ward

Mr. & Mrs. Don O. Baker

Mr. & Mrs. Don R. Baker

Mrs. Jacqueline B. Gaskin

Euzelian SS, FBC Indianola

Dr. & Mrs. T. Scott McCay

Mrs. Crystabel H. Segal

Mr. & Mrs. Andrew J.

Mr. & Mrs. W. R. Till

Mr. Gerald Etheredge

Churchwell

Mrs. Edna W. Erwin

#### Gifts of Honor and Memory,

A portion of the Village View is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

#### October 1, 1990 - Mr. Ben Breen October 31, 1990

#### HONORS

Mrs. Ozella Carter WMU, Ocobla Baptist Church Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Caspell Mr. & Mrs. Robert A. Smith Mr. & Mrs. E. L. Doughty Miss Helen Paul Lillie Mae Fleming Ms. Louise Mounce Mrs. Jacqueline Gaskin Mrs. Louise Haralson Mrs. Willie Lou Lowery Alathean SS, Collins BC Mr. Andy Rainey

#### **MEMORIALS**

Mr. Clyde Ashley Roberson

Mrs. Nona R. Shows

Mrs. Jean Allgood

Mrs. L. L. Gowan Mr. George Alderson Mrs. George M. Yarbrough & Family Mr. Monte Alexander Mr. & Mrs. James Rochester Richard Ray Andrews Mr. & Mrs. C. D. Pollan Mr. S. T. Armstrong Mr. & Mrs. Ted T. Shook & Ryan Mrs. Bertha Armstrong
Price & Gay — Will, Eddie & Billy Mrs. Helen Armstrong Mr. & Mrs. H. M. Holt Mrs. Joan W. Horst Mrs. Ruby A. Sherman Mrs. Marjorie Stamps Mrs. Willie Laura Bagley Mr. Richard Bagley Mr. Troy B. Baldwin Mrs. Margaret S. Tomlinson Jay Albritton Mr. & Mrs. Tom Cotten The Gerald Hasselman Family Mrs. O. H. Shamblin Sue Barrier Mr. & Mrs. Dan W. Southerland Jr. Mrs. Wilma Bernamonti Mr. & Mrs. Robert Bradford 1. M. Billings Ida & W. G. Mize Jr. Mr. Millard M. Billings Mr. & Mrs. Lewis Buford Mrs. Eloise B. Blackledge Mr. & Mrs. Joe R. Byars Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Barker Mr. & Mrs. Jim Henry Mitchell

Melodi Mrs. Christine Smith & Children Mrs. Mamie Boggs Mr. & Mrs. I. G. Patterson Mrs. Ethel W. Borne Ms. Ann Beck Collier Garland Boyd, Sr. Dr. & Mrs. James W. Lewis Mr. William H. Bradshaw Mrs. D. F. Fondren Jr. Miss Mary Godbold Mrs. Forestine Brady Mr. & Mrs. Frank H. Jones Van Vleet Baptist Church Mrs. Esther Breckenridge Mr. & Mrs. Jimmie E. Poole McKeithen SS, Temple BC, Hattiesburg

Ruth SS. FBC Marks

Mrs. Alma Blackwell

Mr. & Mrs. Morris Waller

Mr. & Mrs. Carl E. Howard Mrs. Dorothy Breland Mr. & Mrs. Frank H. Jones Mr. J. M. Bridges Mrs. Thelma Lane Mrs. Beatrice Rodgers Bridges Mr. & Mrs. Rex Turner Mrs. Margaret Brister Mr. & Mrs. W. M. Sheppard Mrs. Myrtle Burchfield Brister Harry Hall SS, FBC Mr. & Mrs. Raymond L. Craig Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Morrison Ms. Ruby Brock Van Vleet Baptist Church Ms. Helen Browder Mr. & Mrs. Malcolm W. Heard **Charles Brown** Mr. & Mrs. Sam T. Carter Mr. Walter Brown Ms. Frances D. Collins Mrs. Carrie C. Brumfield Mr. & Mrs. Boyd Thompson Mr. T. R. Buckner Mr. & Mrs. Terry Champion & Wendy

Columbus

Mrs. Lois C. Goodwin

Mrs. Mary Lee Lowry

**Mrs. Corrine Cummins** 

Mr. & Mrs. O. D. Davis

Walter S. Davison, Sr.

Mr. Bernice Denham

Culpepper Mrs. Virginia Denton

Mr. & Mrs. Eugene

Mr. & Mrs. Robert A. Smith

Family

Mr. & Mrs. J. P. Kelly

Mr. Bill Curry

Lytle Ray Davis

Mr. O. D. Davis

Mrs. Daisy Everett Mr. & Mrs. L. C. White Mr. Ned Burkhalter Mrs. Ola Mae Farmer Mr. & Mrs. James S. Pilgrim Mr. & Mrs. H. M. Holt Mr. James Neal Butler Fidelis SS, FBC Crystal Mr. & Mrs. Bill Davis Springs Mrs. Estelle Calcote Dr. A. Lewis Farr **Providence Baptist Church** Mr. & Mrs. L. C. White Mrs. Thelma Woodyear Mr. & Mrs. Alvin Earl Scott Era Nance Carr Kathryn Farrell Mr. & Mrs. Tom Pettey Mr. & Mrs. John O. Watkins Mrs. Cora Marie Carr Mr. Rufus Cleveland Fondren **Emory Baptist Church** Mrs. Jewell Waits Mrs. Brock Craft Mr. & Mrs. D. C. Scott Mrs. Frankie S. Carr Mrs. Evelyn Forrester Mr. & Mrs. Albert Case Mr. & Mrs. Dan W. Mrs. Johnnie (Marie) Carr Southerland Jr. Philathea SS, FBC Columbus Alice Rae Foster Circle One WMU, FBC Mrs. Mayme L. Prevost

Mrs. Rose Marie Foster Mr. & Mrs. D. C. Scott Adult II SS, Galilee BC Mrs. Mary Ann Chambers Mr. & Mrs. John M. Purl Mr. & Mrs. T. F. Badon Mr. & Mrs. D. J. Griffin Mr. E. R. (Ray) Churchill Mr. & Mrs. Cletus E. Mr. & Mrs. Ralph E. Van McCurley Mr. & Mrs. George B. Poole Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy R. "39 Club" Williams Mrs. Peggy Shuckrow Mrs. Myrtle Cole Mr. & Mrs. L. L. Stokes Mrs. Mary H. Cook Mrs. Virginia Deas Fulgham Robert Coleman Mr. & Mrs. Don R. Baker Mr. & Mrs. Fred Turner Mr. & Mrs. Don R. Baker Mr. Eddie Gaddis **Miss Margaret Collins** Mr. & Mrs. Charles W.

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Dill Mrs. Charles (Bess) Cook Forest Baptist Church Mr. & Mrs. Don O. Baker Mrs. Christine Cate Gaines Mrs. Frank Shawblosky Mr. S. S. Massey Mr. Ellison Cox Mrs. Mary Cotton Galey Mr. & Mrs. Jim Henry Mr. & Mrs. Gene Millsaps Mitchell Communications Workers of Mr. & Mrs. Morris Waller Kathryn N. Crews Mr. & Mrs. Lewis Buford **Ernest Culbuth** Mr. & Mrs. Bert Carollo

Mr. & Mrs. Fred Palmertree Mr. James H. Cannon Mrs. Norma Jean Brumfield Garn Judge & Mrs. Joe N. Pigott Mr. & Mrs. Curtis Buchanan Mrs. Melissa Geiselbreth J. R. Reagh SS, FBC Byhalia Mr. & Mrs. Wilbur F. Parsons Mr. Fred A. George, Sr. Mrs. Alfred Nowell Miss Janette Nowell Mrs. Addie Mae Harvison Mrs. S. G. Richardson Mr. Charlie Gibson Mr. & Mrs. Herma Coats & Mrs. Margaret Fredericks &

Christopher Mrs. Essie Gordon Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Crowe Mrs. Margie Gordon Yale Street Baptist Church Mrs. Viola Vineyard

I am a life that was changed. Thank you for giving to the Lord.

I am so glad you gave.

Thank you for giving to the Lord.



A very sincere prayer of thanks has been lifted for all of you special people who have already responded with generous Thanksgiving gifts for the children at The Baptist Children's Village. It is people like you who continue to make this ministry to children possible.

If you have not yet had an opportunity to send your Thanksgiving gift you may mail it to: The Baptist Children's Village

P. O. Box 27 Clinton, Mississipi 39060-0027

Mrs. Thellie Edna Gordon Mrs. J. M. Rutledge Mrs. Katherine Gore Clinton Plaza Employees, **DGN Bank** Adrian L. Gray

E. F. Nunn & Company Mrs. Dorrah Gray Adult II Ladies SS, Galilee

Mrs. Irmah McCurley Gray Ladies Adult SS II, Galilee BC Mr. & Mrs. George B. Poole Mr. & Mrs. L. L. Stokes Mr. & Mrs. Cletus E.

McCurley Shawna Gray Mr. & Mrs. Donnie Ray Moffett Mrs. Joan Greene

Mr. & Mrs. Wallace Fortner Mrs. Fannie Greenwo Mr. & Mrs. Richard Hanson **Baby Grubb** Mr. & Mrs. Wilbur F. Parsons Kay Hale

Mr. & Mrs. Delbert L.Haynes Mr. Howard Hall Mrs. Mary B. Ford Mr. Clyde R. Hamilton Ms. Marguerite L. Mariscal Elvin Hammo Mark & Teresa Brooks Mr. Terry Hancock Mr. Robert C. Turcotte Jr.

Mr. Grady McLaurin Mr. J. D. Hankins, Sr. Mr. Guy Branscome Mrs. E. F. Embry Mr. & Mrs. Hayes Branscome Mr. & Mrs. W. G. Branscome Jr.

Frances, Rich & Grace Defenbaugh Mr. J. W. Harris Mr. & Mrs. H. M. Holt Forest Baptist Church Mrs. L. V. Harrison Mr. & Mrs. Jim Henry Mitchell

**Edward H. Hart** Mr. & Mrs. C. W. Makamson Mrs. Aline Myers Mr. Henry C. Hemphill Mr. & Mrs. Don R. Baker Mr. & Mrs. Russell Clanton Mrs. L. P. Hemphill Nancy Meyers Mr. & Mrs. Albert Myers Mr. Ray Henderson Forest Baptist Church Mrs. Dorothy C. Henderson Mr. & Mrs. Jack Hardage

Dr. Joseph R. Henry Mr. & Mrs. James A. Kidd Herbert Richard Herrington Mr. & Mrs. W. O. Hilderbrand Mr. Wallace Hindman

Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth W. Statham Miss Gay Statham

Mr. Sherrod N. Hinds Mr. & Mrs. Dan King Mr. Billy Ray Hodum Mrs. Carolyn Hill

Ms. Nannie Mae Holloway **Bradford Chapel Baptist** Church

Mr. Charles Hubbard Mr. & Mrs. John F. Harper

Mr. C. Brister Hughes Mr. & Mrs. Malcolm G. Hight Mrs. Eva Hurst Mr. & Mrs. Bill Stanley Mr. Clarence (Jack) Hutchison Mr. & Mrs. Jack Hardage Mr. & Mrs. Buford Ingram Mr. & Mrs. Tom Coward Jr. **David Jackson** Mr. & Mrs. Norman Fountain

Mr. Harrell F. Jeanes Billie D., Barry & Donna Whitfield Mr. Fred Joblin

Rev. & Mrs. Harold B. Harris Mrs. Dorothy W. Shaw Mrs. Elsie Johns Ms. Barbara O. McCarley Mrs. Louise McMillan Johnson Mr. & Mrs. C. D. Pollan

Mrs. Ruby Johnson Mr. & Mrs. Lewis Buford **Becky Jones** Stanton Baptist Church Mrs. Rochelle Jones Mr. & Mrs. Mickey Fleming

Mr. & Mrs. Richard B. Fain Mrs. Lucille Kennedy **Barton Baptist Church** Mrs. Theola Kitchens

Mr. A. R. Kemp

Mr. Robert C. Turcotte Jr. Mr. Grady F. Koen Mr. & Mrs. Hobart Daniels Mr. & Mrs. Frank H. Jones &

Sons Mrs. W. A. Moser Mr. W. C. Landrum Mrs. Brock Craft The Leon Engelmann Family Berean SS, FBC Durai Mr. Ralph E. Laughlin

Mrs. Leah Clendinning & Family Mildred Leonard Gooden Lake Baptist Church Mr. William Emmett Lewis, Sr.

Mrs. Betty D. Jensen Mr. Lemuel W. Ligon Mrs. J. P. Marsalis Mr. John Paul Lindsey Mr. & Mrs. Fred Turner Mr. Willis Logan Mrs. Darrell Randall

Mrs. Cheri Peeples Mr. Prentiss Loper Forest Baptist Church Mr. & Mrs. Norman Fountain Mrs. Mary Lou Magee Mr. & Mrs. Eddie Pickett & Family Ms. Ann E. Smith

Mrs. W. O. Thomas Sr. Mr. Gurlie Malone Mr. & Mrs. S. M. Dowdle Mrs. Mable Mangum Mr. & Mrs. Leroy Peeples Rodney Mapp Mr. & Mrs. Travis Johnson

Mrs. Ethel Mae Martin Mrs. Mary A. Thomas Mr. Robert McAlexander The Gerald Hasselman

Pri Family Miss Bea McAlister Mr. & Mrs. Billy Skelton Mrs. Nannie McBrayer Mr. & Mrs. W. B. Holman

Barry Lee McCormick Mr. & Mrs. Donnie Ray Moffett Mila Ree McCullough Mr. & Mrs. S. M. Dowdle

Mr. G. O. McGahey The Tommy Floyds Mrs. S. A. McGahey Mrs. Aline McGregor Mr. & Mrs. Hugh Robinson Mrs. Ruth McIntyre Mrs. Margaret S. Tomlinson Mr. Dennis McKay Mrs. Darrell Randall Mrs. Rilla McLendon

**FBC Mt Olive** Mrs. Curtis McNemar Mr. James W. Gartin Jr. Mr. Robert Melton Mr. & Mrs. George E. Hart

Mr. J. J. Meyers Mrs. Essie Mae Meyers Mr. Lester "Bud" Miles Mr. H. J. Lomax Sr. Mrs. Carrie Miller Mrs. Emma Jo Smith Mrs. Joe Miller Mrs. Annie V. Black Mrs. Oscar Henderson (Sara)

Mrs. Dorothy L. White & Family Mr. & Mrs. Walter S. Allen Mr. & Mrs. D. M. Baron Mrs. Jessie S. Brooks Mr. & Mrs. Dale Hays Mr. & Mrs. Billy Skelton Circle #1, WIC, 1st Presbyterian Church,

Water Valley Mr. & Mrs. J. M. Colson, Jr. Mr. & Mrs. J. M. Colson, III Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Colson Mr. & Mrs. Hamric Henry Leigh McCullough Mrs. Hugh M. Baddley Mr. & Mrs. Tom L. Upton Mrs. Nellie Brown Mr. & Mrs. William T.

Stavely

Mr. Rick Mioton Mr. Robert C. Turcotte Jr. Mrs. Agnes F. Montgomery Mrs. Frank L. McLemore Jason L. Moore

Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Fulce & **Family** Mr. & Mrs. Harol Whittington

& Sons Mrs. Blanche Moore Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy R. Williams

Mr. H. Taylor Morrissette E. F. Nunn & Company Mr. Robert (Bob) Mosley Mr. & Mrs. J. L. Dearman

**Bill Mullen** Mrs. Montez S. Watts Mrs. L. L. Mullins, Sr. Miss Connie Jackson Mrs. Gladys Jackson Lecta A. Morgan Frankie & Martha Morgan Jackie & Garner Morgan

Mrs. Margie Mullins Mrs. A. R. Gaston Miss Fay Parker Mrs. T. H. Murphy Mr. & Mrs. J. P. Kelly Mr. Wilson Enloe Neely

Mrs. Martha Jo Compton Mr. & Mrs. Leroy Peeples **Hattie Nelson** Mr. & Mrs. Walter P. McMurchy

Mr. Frank Nester Shuqualak Baptist Church Mrs. E. B. Norwood Mr. & Mrs. W. A. Thoma Mr. & Mrs. James W.

Thompson Mrs. Alma Fortney Nolan Mrs. Edith Aldridge Mr. & Mrs. Fred Powers Miss Ruth O'Leary Mrs. Roy B. Fowler Mrs. Evelyn Oakes
Mrs. Roberta Barrentine

Mr. C. W. Oliver, Sr. Mr. & Mrs. Billy Skelton Welty Oliver Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Heath

Mr. Ben C. Penn. Jr. Mrs. Charles G. Stanford, Sr. Mr. & Mrs. Chester Holloway Mr. & Mrs. Curtis Buchanan Mrs. Edith W. Steele X. O. Peoples

The Joe Bunch Family Mr. Mott Pevey, Sr. Mr. & Mrs. Richard Prassel Paul Phillips

Mrs. Marian E. Pellusch Mrs. Maggie Bell Pipkins Mr. & Mrs. W. V. Cook Mr. Joe Ponsock Mr. & Mrs. J. P. Kelly Ellen Pope Mrs. J. W. Pope

(To be continued)

# CHILDREN'S PAGE

"Read my lips"

By Lucille Bailey

all of his possessions, even his children, his wife wanted him to curse God and die. Job said, "Read my lips. I will never use my lips to sin."



There are many instances in the Bible reminding us to use our lips to give thanks. First of all, we should thank God that he let his Son die on Calvary's cross that we might have everlasting life. We can use our lips to thank our parents for all the things they do for us. Our countenance would be helped if during the day we would say many times, "Read my lips.

We are told in the Bible to use our lips to add learning. When we consider that in just one chapter of the Bible are 176 verses, there are plenty of verses we can learn!

When George Bush ran for the office of President of the United States, one plank in his platform was "Read my Lips — No New taxes."

If we really want to know why God made lips in the first place, all we have to do is look in the Bible. Perhaps the best example that we can find is in the book of Job. After Job had lost all of his passessions are not seen as a look of Job. After Job had lost all of his passessions are not limited. Bible we lips in the Bible we are told to use our lips to speak the right thing. We can begin by quoting the wind blows, really strong, and the wind was a limited blows. God taught the squirrel to come down out of the tree because when the limb breaks the little squirrel would go "squash." Perhaps the most joyful thing we could use our lips for would be to tell someone about the plan of salvation. Altogether now - "Read my lips."



Many times in the Bible we read the word "praise" and we are told to use our lips to praise God. There is never a time in our lives that we can't find something to praise God for. God likes to hear us call his name and praise There are many beautiful stories in him for a prayer he has answered, for the Bible that will make us say, "Read the food we eat, the clothing we have

my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer."

We can speak the right thing when we invite someone to Sunday School and church or join in the singing during the services. You should make the following pledge — "Read my lips. I will use my lips only to speak the right thing.'

Our parents, grandparents, and teachers have always taught us not to say curse words and if you search the scriptures you will find that the Bible said it first: "Do not use your lips to speak guile." When you hear someone say a curse word or use the Lord's name in vain, remind them that the Bible says, "Read my lips. They are not to be used for guile."





My name is Chasity Robison. I am
13 and in the 8th grade. Some of my
hobbies are: cheerleading, basketball, softball, swimming, shopping, playing pool, football. My favorite subjects in school are English and math. I attend Fifth Street Junior High School in West Point. I would like boys, ages 13-18, to write me. Please write to this address:

Chasity Robison Rt. 3, Box 268 West Point, MS 39773 P.S. Send me a picture if you can.

My name is Anya Grant. I go to Endville Baptist Church. I like to swim, read, ride bikes, and write let-ters. I am 9 years old, and I'm looking for good friends by mail. If you write me, try to send me a picture if you can. Guess I better let you chillens go! When you write, write to Anya Grant, Rt. 1, Box 131, Belden, MS

> Bye for now! Anya

There are many references in the Bible to lips. We are to use our lips for rejoicing, but not for wickedness or uncleanness.

One final warning about lips has a lot to do with parents, grandparents, and teachers, as they are "pleading lips." These lips plead with you not to use drugs, alcohol, tobacco, or anything that would harm the lips that God made for you.



If we would abide by the use of lips as recorded in the Bible, we just might not need the Ten Commandments, and we could all say, "Read my lips.
I dedicate them to the glory of God." Mrs. Bailey lives at State Line.

#### Transplanted Mississippians minister in Anchorage

By Lola M. Autry

It was not until I returned from Alaska that I thought about how many Baptist churches I had seen there; some in unlikely spots; others in the larger cities where they might be expected. I almost missed one of the loveliest. Floating down the Chena River near Fairbanks, I spotted one back from the bank, visible only through an opening in the tree and shrub endowed river frontage. And at North Pole, Alaska, there stood another of our churches looking very much like those in Mississippi

In Anchorage, I met Dick Miller, a native of Myrtle, Mississippi. Now retired, he was a home missionary

and also founder and pastor of Hillside Baptist Church on O'Malley Road. Dick and his wife, Opal, have been in Alaska for many years. Before meeting her he attended Mississippi College. He received his master's degree from Ole Miss and then went to Southwestern Seminary at Fort Worth. His early work in Alaska was with Eskimos in Juneau and Kotzebue and Sitka. Often his method of travel

was by dog sled or plane.

Dick met his wife through another
Southern Baptist missionary, Valeria
Sherard. I met Valeria also, but in an unusual way. Coleete Randle of New Albany and I were lunching at the



Non-typical Alaskan Mary Shields, first woman to enter the Iditerod — the 1000 miles dog sled race from Nome to Fairbanks - and her typical Alaskan dog named Jack O' Lantern. His birthday is Hallowe'en. (Photo by Lola Autry)



First Baptist Church, North Pole. Alaska.

Royal Fork Buffet in Anchorage. Coleete was wearing a shirt decorated with magnolias and the name MISSISSIPPI. Valeria was seated at another table and spotted Coleete's shirt. She came to us and introduced herself. During our chat I learned there is a class bearing her name at First Baptist Church, New Albany.

It was on the next morning after we met Valeria that I learned of another story about Dick Miller. His cousins, Mary Frances Barber from Myrtle and Dorothy Goolsby of Memphis, had ent the night with Dick and Opal. As part of their entertainment for the evening the four of them had gone to election headquarters, for this day was election day in Anchorage. There they met a good friend of the Millers,

Willie Hensley. Hensley is half Eskimo and half Russian. As a boy he had met Dick and a bond was formed. Sensing the boy's capabilities Dick took him under his wing. He arranged for Willie's education and maintained close ties with him during those years. On this election day Willie Hensley was chosen by the people to be the Democratic nominee for lieutenantgovernor of Alaska.

Hensley has profited by the Christian example of Miller. At one time he established a bank to help Eskimos.

Now he is working to see that

Eskimos are treated fairly.

In their quiet way Dick and Opal maintain the same type of Christian helpfulness as always. Although retired, they are not RETIRED. He is doing volunteer work with a hospice where the people are terminally ill; serving people not affiliated with a church and who have no pastor. Opal orks with the Baptist university in Anchorage.

Evidence of the work of Southern Baptists is seen throughout this northernmost of our states, and although there have been many setbacks and work among some of the tribes has had to be curtailed, the message of Christ and hope is a vital and vibrant one in this land of glaciers and snow and cold, yet crowned for about four months with flowers of unsurpassed richness of color and form: mute testimony to the love of God for all people in all lands.

Autry lives in Whipporville Valley at

Hickory Flat.



MS 39205

Box 530, Jackso

November 15, 1990

\*\*\*\*\*